

Cairo police ringing buses that were damaged Tuesday by a terrorist bomb outside the Egyptian Museum, which is frequented by tourists. No injuries were reported.

Egypt Terrorists Set Off Bomb In 2d Attack at Big Tourist Site

CAIRO — A bomb on Tuesday damaged four buses parked outside the Egyptian Museum, one of the best-known tourist attractions in Cairo's biggest public square, where last month another bomb killed three people and wounded 20 others in a coffee shop.

Mafia Linked To Politics In Deepening Italian Probe

ROME — Italy's bribery scandal clawed deeper into the government's shrouded ranks Tuesday when the leader of a third political party resigned and investigators finally began detailing the incendiary ties between corrupt politicians at the heart of government and the organized crime gangs of the south.

At Least 25 Die in Calcutta as a Bomb Destroys 2 Buildings

NEW DELHI — A bomb wrecked two buildings in Calcutta before dawn Wednesday, killing at least 25 people and injuring 100, police and news agencies reported.

crime and international terrorists had roles in the bombings. Two U.S. investigators are traveling to New Delhi to join the inquiry and look for similarities with the World Trade Center bombing.

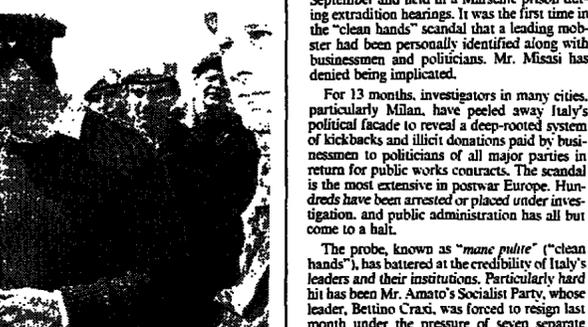
based organized-crime figure from Bombay, and both are wanted on charges of kidnapping and murder. The police said one was a contract killer.

China's Military Outlays Fan the Region's Fears

Minister Lin Zhongli to the Congress, now meeting for its annual session. Mr. Lin said that the budget for military spending was 42.5 billion yuan (\$7.4 billion) this year.

Kiosk GI's Are in Bosnia, UN General Says

PARIS (Reuters) — The UN commander in Bosnia, General Philippe Morillon, said Tuesday that two U.S. Army signal experts were in Srebrenica to guide relief aid drops.



Refugees visiting with British troops in Croatia. On the Serbia-Bosnia border, Prince Charles awaited clearance to go to besieged towns in eastern Bosnia. Page 2.

The Incredible Case of the Vanishing Auto Executive

DETROIT — From the moment José Ignacio López de Arriortua arrived at General Motors Corp.'s headquarters from Europe nine months ago, the straitlaced U.S. automobile industry had never seen anyone so driven and so personally eccentric challenging the Motor City's protocol.

Mr. López's flip-flop, which began with his formal resignation from GM on Thursday, is a public embarrassment for Mr. Smith, his friend and mentor. In one of his first acts as GM's president, Mr. Smith brought Mr. López, a Spanish industrial engineer, to Detroit, and endowed him with broad powers to shake up the No. 1 automaker's parts-making and purchasing operations.

A Chilling War Scenario

Detailed Plans Uncovered by German Military Show East Bloc's High Readiness for Offensive. He added, "Our officers were deeply impressed." The preparations, which were regularly updated over the years, ranged from the trivial to the terrifying.

The New Hunt in Congress: Going After the Proliferators

WASHINGTON — Nothing is sacred on Capitol Hill anymore. First perks were under attack, then pork became suspect. And now propaganda is getting a bad name.

Charles B. Rangel, the veteran New York Democrat, complaining about the group of lawmakers christened "reformer focuses" by Norman Ornstein, an analyst who focuses on Congress. "They're not checking for their newsletters. They're just looking for clips for their newsletters. They're feeding on each other's' enthusiasms. They have no plan, no strategy, no willingness to sit down and see what is really meaningful."

Under Muslim Assault, Egypt's Coptic Christians Wonder Where to Turn

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

CAIRO — In a striking example of the power of Muslim fundamentalists, nearly 10 million Coptic Christians in Egypt, the largest religious minority in the Middle East and one of its most ancient, are under siege.

Copts from all walks of life are being attacked, robbed and killed by roving bands of fundamentalists. Churches are regularly vandalized and sometimes burned, prompting the government to place virtually all of them under police guard.

As Islamic fundamentalism has become a rallying cry for opposition groups throughout the Arab world, Christian Arabs have come under pressure that in the last few years has vastly diminished their political, social and economic status in Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Syria and among Palestinians in the territories occupied by Israel. As a result, hundreds of thousands have emigrated to the United States, Canada, Western Europe and Australia.

The sharpening hostility toward Arab Christians is a by-product of a wider Muslim fundamentalist challenge that began in the late 1970s. Militants have made secularist Arab governments their targets, including those of Syria, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Jordan, as well as pro-Western fundamentalist nations like Saudi Arabia and others in the Gulf.

The movement, which encompasses many groups, has gradually widened its targets to

include Western interests regarded as a natural extension of secular modernization. Hostages were taken in Beirut by Muslim fundamentalists with close ties to Iran, where an Islamic government came to power in 1979. Bombs planted by fundamentalist immigrants recruited from abroad shook France. Western airliners were hijacked.

Now the United States may have become a target, too, as investigators pursue leads suggesting that Muslim fundamentalists were connected to the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York last month.

In Egypt, with the Arab world's largest population, it is the little-known Christian minority that has become the main victim of Muslim violence.

Copts are reckoned to be a link to Egypt's pharaonic past, direct descendants of the original inhabitants of the country. The word "Copt" has its origins in a Greek word meaning Egyptian. Christianity came to Egypt in the year 41, and the Coptic church was among the so-called Oriental churches that split with Rome in 451 in a theological dispute. After the Islamic Arab invasion of the seventh century, many Copts eventually converted to Islam.

The assaults against Copts, which have claimed 150 to 200 lives, are part of a strategy to bring down the government of President Hosni Mubarak in favor of an Islamic republic like that in Iran.

Militants hope to destabilize the country

with the violence, which has also claimed victims among Muslim government officials and security forces. In October, foreign tourists were added to the list of targets in an effort to devastate the tourism industry, which is vital to the Egyptian economy.

Most Egyptians, including Copts, believe the Egyptian government can contain fundamentalist violence here. But a majority of Christians and the Coptic Church leadership argue that the government fosters a climate of religious intolerance that encourages violence against them. Benign neglect and discrimination against Copts have been practiced by successive Egyptian governments, including that of Mr. Mubarak, many Copts assert.

In the last two decades, Copts have been systematically eliminated from positions as cabinet ministers, army officers, police officials, governors, bankers, parliamentary representatives and university professors.

In what many Copts see as one of the most blatant examples of sanctioned discrimination, archaic laws from the Ottoman Empire have been used to ban the construction of new churches and the repair of ancient ones for nearly 30 years, severely constraining the practice of Christianity in Egypt and placing a rich heritage of centuries-old monasteries, churches and icons at risk.

A climate of fear and rejection has become pervasive enough that many Coptic women, abandoning a practice followed since Chris-

tianity came to Egypt nearly 2,000 years ago, now refrain from displaying crosses. In Cairo, Christian schools have raised the walls surrounding them by several feet for added protection. At public schools, Christian children complain they learn nothing of their religion and are often insulted, ostracized or humiliated by militant Muslim teachers.

"We are living through moments of terror," said Sabri Khalil Ghabrial, 37, a surgeon in El Minya, in southern Egypt. "There are days when you go into the streets not knowing what may happen to you."

The attacks on Christians began in southern Egypt, a fiercely conservative, emotionally combustible region whose people have strong ties to the land going back centuries. In the 1980s and 90s the attacks moved to large urban centers up the valley of the Nile, including the capital, Cairo.

Amid almost weekly reports of violence against Christians, a massacre in Dairut stood out as a particularly shocking example. On May 4, 1991, a group of Muslims moved down 13 Christian peasants with machine-gun fire as they tilled their lands outside the village. Three other Copts were killed in town, one a doctor who was tending to a patient in his clinic.

In October, in the village of Tema, south of El Minya, four Christians were killed with axes in their homes by Muslims. The fundamentalists returned in greater numbers the next day and burned 64 houses and dozens of stores

owned by Christians as well as a church before the police and firemen showed up.

Attacks claiming scores of victims have also taken place in Cairo, Alexandria, and other cities.

"In the face of these assaults the government's reaction was always coming in too late after the people are killed, after the houses have been burned down and the churches sacked," said Antonou Sidhom, editor and publisher of *Wetani*, a weekly Coptic newspaper. "They never offered to pay compensation or provided credible comfort to their Christian citizens."

In many ways, some Copts say, the ultimate shock came in October, after a British tourist was killed in an attack. The government, mindful that tourism was its single largest source of foreign revenue last year, bringing in \$3.5 billion to \$4 billion, began a huge security sweep that is still under way, resulting in the arrests of thousands of suspected militants.

Many Christians took this response as a chilling message.

"It is as if the government is telling everyone, 'It's O.K. if you attack on little Copts, but don't touch the tourists,'" said Mr. Sidhom, one of a growing number of wealthy, eminent Copts who are publicly addressing discrimination.

Many Copts, perhaps a half-million in the last 10 years, have left. They include a large number of university professors, professionals and wealthy businessmen. From places like the

United States and Canada, some are trying to call the world's attention to the Coptic plight while pressing the Coptic Church to be more active.

"They don't call it the church of martyrdom for nothing," said Selim Naguib, 58, a Copt who is a high court judge in Montreal and whose doctoral thesis on Copts represented their situation as a "grave case of human rights violations being systematically perpetrated by the government." Judge Naguib's Canadian Coptic Association is trying to bring the matter before the United Nations.

"At meetings in church, people often ask me until when are we going to watch silently as they burn our churches and kill our people," said Bishop Ananias, 63, the religious leader of the Christian communities of Minya Province, whose population of 2 million is about 20 percent Christian.

The Coptic Church leadership rejects a confrontational approach, arguing that while there are indeed hard times for Christian Arabs they are not the hardest.

"You are looking at the past year or 10 years; I am looking at 1,900 years of Coptic history," said Father Agoston, secretary to the supreme religious leader of Egypt's Copts, Pope Shenouda III. "We have gone through horrendous periods of oppression but here we are, strong, well educated and present. The facts are that all the Copts can do is hunker down in bad times and wait until the oppression lifts."

Georgia Claims It Is at War With Russia

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TBILISI, Georgia — The Georgian leader, Eduard A. Shevardnadze, declared Tuesday that his country was in direct military conflict with Russia, and he warned that a general mobilization was possible.

Mr. Shevardnadze addressed an emergency session of the Georgian parliament after Abkhazian secessionists attacked the Georgian-held capital of their breakaway province, allegedly with Russian help.

Georgian and Abkhazian military commanders reported hundreds of casualties as fierce battles involving tanks, aircraft and heavy artillery raged along the Gumista River on the outskirts of the Black Sea city of Sukhumi.

Georgian spokesmen said 25 of their troops were killed and 52 wounded on Tuesday. Since Sunday, the fighting has claimed the lives of 107 Georgian troops and civilians, and more than 200 have been injured, they said.

No precise count of Abkhazian casualties was available.

"Earlier, I avoided using the phrase 'Russian-Georgian conflict,'" Mr. Shevardnadze told lawmakers. "I now state that we are dealing with a Russian-Georgian conflict."

Georgia has accused Russian troops of intervening to help the Abkhazian separatists, who want to create an autonomous homeland along the Black Sea between Russia and Georgia.

Earlier, on a visit to Sukhumi, Mr. Shevardnadze said the rebels had used warplanes bearing Russian Air Force markings to bomb the town.

The separatist command said the planes were Abkhazian.

In Moscow, the Russian Defense Ministry assailed Mr. Shevardnadze's allegations as "deliberate lies with certain political goals," according to the Interfax press agency.

The ministry put Russian troops in Abkhazia on high alert, with orders to shoot to kill in order to rebuff any armed attack. But it reaffirmed that the troops "remained neutral" and uninvolved in the conflict, according to Interfax.

Mr. Shevardnadze said he did not know if the Russian president, Boris N. Yeltsin, knew that the rebels had used warplanes with Russian Air Force markings and Russian artillery. But he added that if the Russian leader had known, "it only makes things worse."

Yeltsin Sees 'Imminent Danger' From Parliament



President Francois Mitterrand of France, left, and President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia taking a tour Tuesday of the Kremlin grounds.

Convoys Wait Despite a Serbian Pledge

The Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Serbian leaders promised Tuesday to let relief convoys reach besieged towns in eastern Bosnia and evacuate wounded on their return trips, aid officials said. But there were signs that the convoys could be delayed yet again by a Bosnian Serbian demand that they proceed without armed escorts, UN officials said.

The developments came as Bosnia's Muslim president, Alija Izetbegovic, left Sarajevo for another round of peace talks in New York. Radovan Karadzic, the leader of Bosnian Serbs, was expected to leave later.

Sarajevo, meanwhile, suffered its heaviest Serbian bombardment in at least three weeks. Sniper fire also increased, and Bosnian radio appealed for people to stay indoors. It said at least 20 had been wounded.

A statement by Bosnian Serbian headquarters, quoted by Yugoslavia's Tanjug press agency, promised safe passage for aid convoys that have been stalled for days on the Yugoslav-Bosnian border.

It followed reports by UN aid officials that

Mr. Karadzic had agreed to let the convoys reach several eastern Bosnian towns cut off by Serbian forces.

Reports from the eastern enclave of Srebrenica, overflowing with an estimated 50,000 residents and refugees, said thousands were on the streets without winter clothing.

The UN commander in Bosnia, General Philippe Morillon of France, has set up operations in the town and vowed not to leave until its occupants receive aid, there is a cease-fire and civilians are allowed to evacuate.

"I renew my promise not to leave the city before I am sure that their survival is guaranteed," he said Tuesday in an interview by radio.

A convoy of food and medicine has been stalled at the border town of Mali Zvornik since Thursday awaiting permission to reach Srebrenica. It would be the first aid to the town, excluding U.S. Air Force aid drops, since Dec. 10. Three other convoys, for Tuzla, Sarajevo and Gorazde, also were waiting.

A spokeswoman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said in Belgrade that Mr. Karadzic had given assurance that the convoys

in Mali Zvornik would be given permission to proceed.

She said Mr. Karadzic promised that all sick and wounded "including combatants if they give up their arms" could be evacuated, and that aid workers would be allowed to enter the town.

But Major Pepe Gallegos of the UN Protection Forces in Sarajevo said the United Nations had rejected a Serbian condition that the convoys leave its armored military escort behind.

WEU Offers Embargo Aid

The Western European Union defense group is offering armed police and speedboats to enforce the UN embargo against Serbia on the Danube, where barges have broken the sanctions, Reuters reported Tuesday from Brussels.

Diplomats said the agreement — which comes after Romania appealed for help in enforcing the embargo — was reached in principle at a meeting of WEU ambassadors in Brussels.

Sources said it was hoped the police force could be in place within a few weeks.

3 Arabs Killed in Occupied Lands, Rabin Cuts Short Trip

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli soldiers shot and killed two Palestinians and wounded up to 68 on Tuesday.

The previous night, Jewish vigilantes were blamed for the fatal drive-by shooting of an Arab in the West Bank, and Jewish settlers rampaged through two West Bank villages in retaliation for the deaths of two Israelis run over by an Arab truck driver.

Mr. Rabin decided to return to Israel on Friday instead of Monday, as planned, because of the escalating violence, an aide said in

Washington. Six Israelis and nine Palestinians were killed in the last two weeks.

Jewish settlers in the occupied lands had been demanding Mr. Rabin's immediate return, saying Arab attacks against Israelis were out of control.

Israeli radio said security officials decided Tuesday to deploy more soldiers and police around the country and in the occupied territories to deal with the violence.

The fighting in Gaza erupted in the Khan Yunis refugee camp after

the army lifted a curfew, army officials said. Palestinians threw a homemade bomb at soldiers but the explosion did not hurt anyone. Soldiers opened fire, triggering widespread stone-throwing by Arabs, the officials said.

Troops kept shooting to quell the riot, killing 17-year-old Said Salameh and wounding 45, the army said. Palestinians gave the youth's age as 13 and reported 67 wounded.

Several hours later, rioting erupted in the camp again, and 20-year-old Fayed Mohammed Bayouk was killed by army gunfire, Arab reports said.

In the West Bank refugee camp of Nur Shams, Jewish settlers opened fire from their car late Monday, killing Nasser Ali Abu Eishah, 22, Arab reports said.

In two West Bank villages near Nablus, Jewish settlers smashed cars in retaliation for the traffic death of two Israelis on Monday. Army officials said they did not know whether it was an accident or if the Arab driver meant to kill the two Israelis.

WORLD BRIEFS

Beijing Envoy Defects to Sweden

STOCKHOLM (AP) — A Chinese diplomat and his wife fled Russia on an overnight passenger ferry and applied for political asylum in Sweden, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday. Wang Liji, China's consul-general in St. Petersburg, arrived in Stockholm over the weekend and contacted the police on Monday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He said the couple arrived on tourist visas and were staying in a hotel. Several Chinese diplomats defected immediately after the democracy movement was crushed in 1989, but prior to that, defections were rare.

The Stockholm police inspector, Nils-Erik Palhsteden, predicted the asylum request would be "expedited in a week," although most applications take three months to process.

Kurds in Turkey Call for a Cease-Fire

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — Turkey's Kurdish separatists said Tuesday that they were ready to end their armed struggle for an independent state and called for a cease-fire.

But Ali Sapan, a spokesman for the Kurdistan National Liberation Front, the political wing of the Kurdistan Workers Party, said at a news conference here that if Turkey rejected the proposal, the Kurds would "intensify and resume the war all over Kurdistan."

He said the party was now a political force representing millions of people in Kurdistan and added that the Front supported the party's political position and principles. Mr. Sapan urged European governments to cooperate with the party and seek a "just and peaceful solution."

German Firm Tied to Libya Gas Plant

FRANKFURT (AFP) — A number of European companies are helping build a chemical gas factory in Libya, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung reported Tuesday.

Some German companies have unwittingly delivered equipment to be used in the production of chemical weapons, the daily added. The goods were believed to have been shipped to Libya through four Thai companies and two front companies in Hong Kong and Singapore, it said.

The newspaper said the public prosecutor might take action against a Linmen machine-building company. The company, Westalia-Bercoit Industrietechnik, said it was not aware of the end use of the equipment it supplied. The paper said the equipment had been used to build a tunnel as part of the poison gas factory under construction at Tarmua, 65 kilometers (40 miles) southeast of Tripoli.

Abortion Ban Takes Effect in Poland

WARSAW (AP) — Poland's ban on most abortions went into effect Tuesday as doctors warned of a dangerous medical underground and newspapers carried advertisements for abortions abroad.

The law, signed by President Lech Walesa in February, ends 37 years of abortion on demand in Poland and stipulates a two-year prison term for doctors performing the procedure. In the 1980s, when contraceptive housing and optimism were in the shortest supply, an estimated 500,000 abortions were being performed annually, ending one in two pregnancies.

The law allows abortions only when doctors certify that the pregnancy endangers the mother's life, it is the result of rape or incest, or prenatal tests show the fetus to be seriously, irreparably damaged.

Somali Factions Clash in Kismayu

MOGADISHU, Somalia (WP) — Somalia's precarious cease-fire suffered a serious blow Tuesday when one armed faction drove another out of the southern port town of Kismayu. Belgian soldiers who were there in tanks were unable to stop the fighting because civilians were in the way, a U.S. military spokesman said.

The battle erupted on the second day of peace talks between Somali factions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Many analysts here feared the fighting could disrupt the discussions.

About 300 soldiers loyal to a military leader known as General Mohammed Said Hersi Morgan expelled about 50 soldiers backing another factional figure, Colonel Omar Jess. The spokesman said he had no casualty figures but that intense shooting had rocked the city.

UN Blames Khmer Rouge in Killings

PHNOM PENH (Reuters) — The UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia on Tuesday officially blamed Khmer Rouge guerrillas for the massacre last week of ethnic Vietnamese civilians. Up to 38 people, including many women and children, died in the March 10 massacre, which took place near the northwest town of Siem Reap.

"All indications are that the armed attackers were NADK elements," said Eric Falt, spokesman for the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, referring to the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, or Khmer Rouge.

"We're confident of the exactitude of the findings," he said, adding that the conclusion was based on witness testimony. "The sole motive for the attack seems to have been to terrorize and to kill."

TRAVEL UPDATE

A weeklong Paris Metro strike ended after drivers protesting a job restructuring plan suspended their action. The Communist-led General Labor Confederation, or CGT, said it was canceling its call to pursue the twice-daily rush hour stoppages after three other unions announced last Monday that they were satisfied with proposals submitted by the transport authority. (AFP)

Scandinavian Airlines System will begin smoke-free European flights for a six-month trial period, starting March 28. (AFP)

Japan plans to remodel and expand the first terminal at Narita airport near Tokyo to ease passenger congestion. A second terminal was opened in December but the old building, built more than 20 years ago, needs to be expanded to cope with the rising traffic. (Reuters)

The storm that dumped a foot of snow on Washington will delay the blooming of the cherry trees along the Tidal Basin, a harbinger of spring, the National Park Service said. The blossoms are expected to appear between April 8 and 12, instead of by April 5. (AP)

3 Guilty of Raping a Retarded Girl in U.S.

NEWARK, New Jersey — Three of four young men were found guilty Tuesday of raping a mildly retarded girl four years ago in a case that shocked the suburban community in New Jersey where they lived.

After eight days of deliberations, the jury found Christopher Archer, 21, and Kevin Scherzer, 22, guilty of two counts of rape, legally called first-degree aggravated sexual assault.

The youths were charged with sexually assaulting the girl with a baseball bat and broomstick, considered rape under New Jersey law.

The jury also found Kyle Scherzer, Kevin's fraternal twin, guilty of one count of rape. Mr. Archer and Mr. Scherzer were also found guilty of second-degree conspiracy to commit rape.

The fourth defendant, Bryant Grober, 21, was acquitted of the main charges but was found guilty of third-degree conspiracy.

Mr. Archer and both Scherzers face up to 30 years in prison with a minimum of 15 years before being eligible for parole. Mr. Grober faces a maximum of five years in prison.

The incident took place in the basement of the Scherzer home in 1989.

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★ POLITICAL NOTES ★

Congressional Panels Start Belt-Tightening

WASHINGTON — Staff positions are being cut, travel is being curtailed, long-distance calls are being scrutinized. In short, the belt-tightening police are descending on congressional committees, and not even subscriptions to journals and newspapers are safe.

Small Bird, Big Test for California Ecosystem

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, California — The Clinton administration is facing the first test of its promise to save endangered species and serve economic interests. The instrument of that test is a four-inch-long songbird that meows like a kitten and lives in what is left of the coastal scrub of Southern California.

Telephone Calls and Mail Inundate Congress

WASHINGTON — Almost without letup, the phone calls pour into Miss Halpern's headset as she sits in the office of Senator Dianne Feinstein, Democrat of California, typing the caller's name, address and comments onto a computer screen.

Quote / Unquote

President Bill Clinton at a news conference with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel: "Israel's security must be assured. The Israeli people cannot be expected to make peace unless they feel secure."

Away From Politics

- Federal prosecutors in Los Angeles rested their case against four white police officers accused of violating the civil rights of Rodney G. King, whose videotaped beating by the police officers during his arrest after a high-speed chase horrified the nation.

Clinton's Plan Would Cover Mental Health Costs, Too

By Robert Pear
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — As part of its plan to revamp the national health-care system, the Clinton administration wants to guarantee mental health coverage, long relegated to second-class status under private insurance policies.

U.S. Praises Report on Salvador, but Ex-Aides Are Skeptical

By Clifford Kraus
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration has praised a United Nations report charging the Salvadoran Army with gross human rights abuses. But it stopped short of drawing the conclusion that the Reagan and Bush administrations, which strongly supported the Salvadoran military in its war with leftist guerrillas, bore some responsibility.

Many administration officials are determined to eliminate what they see as discriminatory treatment of mental illness by insurers. Private insurance policies often restrict coverage of mental health care, setting limits on the number of days of hospitalization, the number of outpatient visits or the total amount that may be spent for a person in a year or a lifetime.

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for Americans With Severe Mental Illnesses," the government says that "contrary to persistent myth, mental illnesses are both real and definable." Moreover, it says that "a growing body of research" shows that mental illness can be successfully treated.

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illness receive equitable treatment under whatever plan emerges. Mrs. Gore, who has bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology, works closely with the panel's subcommittee on mental health, headed by Dr. Bernard S. Arons, a psychiatrist from the National Institute of Mental Health.

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Advertisement for the Herald Tribune featuring a portrait of a man and the text: "People at the top read the Trib. No local bias. No national slant. No partisan viewpoint. Simply a balanced editing of the news for people with a stake in international affairs."

Large advertisement for AT&T Calling Card. Text includes: "IT'S NOT JUST A CALLING CARD, IT'S A GREETING CARD, IT'S A SHOPPING CARD, IT'S A BUSINESS CARD, IT'S A FAX CARD, IT'S A CONFERENCE CARD, IT'S A TRANSLATION CARD, IT'S A SAVINGS CARD, AND IT'S FREE.*" and "THE AT&T CALLING CARD. To apply, call AT&T collect at 816 654-6688, Ext. 6192."

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U.S. Drops Foreign Funding As Link in Trade Center Blast

By Jim McGee and Michael Isikoff

WASHINGTON — Senior federal officials say they uncovered information that suggests the \$8,000 transferred to the account of suspects in the World Trade Center bombing was innocent in origin and does not link them to an international terrorist organization, as they initially had suspected.

One senior official said the money apparently was sent to Mohamed A. Salameh, who is being held on charges of aiding and abetting the Feb. 26 bombing, by a relative after Mr. Salameh was in an accident.

When the funds transfer from Germany was discovered last week, a number of federal and police officials said it suggested the bombing might be the result of an international conspiracy linked to fundamentalist Muslims. Three suspects have been arrested in the case.

Mr. Salameh, a Jordanian, was arrested six days after the bombing. Investigators said he rented a van that was blown up in the explosion. Nihal A. Ayyad, who had a joint bank account with Mr. Salameh, was arrested last week. Mr. Ayyad, a Kuwaiti of Palestinian origins, is a chemical engineer who lives in New Jersey. A third suspect, Ibrahim Elmagbrovi, was charged with obstructing justice when agents tried to search his residence shortly after Mr. Salameh was arrested.

Investigators have said that Mr. Salameh is a follower of a fundamentalist Islamic cleric, Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman.

At least six people died in the Feb. 26 bombing and more than 1,000 were injured.

Some investigators said they thought they had a major break in the case when they discovered that Mr. Salameh had received payments from an unknown source in Germany. But a senior official cautioned Monday that the source of the funds apparently was "benign."

"Allegedly, Salameh had an accident and he needed money and a relative helped him out," said the official. It is not clear why the two men, Mr. Salameh and Mr. Ayyad, had a joint account.

A second official familiar with the unfinished investigation of the financial transactions said "we are all uncertain about" what relevance, if any, the funds will have to the bombing.

Meanwhile, William H. Webster, a former head of both the CIA and the FBI, questioned assertions that the publicly available evidence points toward international terrorism. "I think we should be careful about rushing to judgment on this," Mr. Webster said during testimony before a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee.

The FBI assistant director, James M. Fox, and the New York City police commissioner, Raymond W. Kelly, reiterated in interviews in New York that there was no direct evidence that the bombing was sponsored by a hostile government or fomented by an international terrorist group.

Mr. Fox also repeated that there was no evidence implicating Mr. Rahman, who continues to be featured prominently in news coverage about the investigation. Mr. Fox said "We have no evidence at this point linking the sheikh directly to the bombing."

AMERICAN TOPICS

By 2050, Washington Might Be a New Town

The National Capital Planning Commission is preparing a long-range design for central Washington that provides for erecting a new U.S. Supreme Court building away from Capitol Hill, among other things.

Such a building, if the justices of the Supreme Court were to desire larger quarters, might be constructed in a new urban core on the banks of the Anacostia River. The commission said this distancing from both the Congress and the White House would better symbolize the separation of powers in the federal government.

This and other proposals by the commission, such as moving three busy bridges, would transform the center of Washington at monumental cost and disruption. It could not be carried out without approval and financing by Congress. The program has been greeted by some as visionary and derided by others as pie-in-the-sky.

The commission is the central planning agency for the federal government in the national capital region. Its proposals are part of an exercise in thinking about the future of Washington's "Monumental Core" through the year 2050.

Short Takes

Training in emergency-room medicine was not offered by training hospitals until 1970. Today, 98 such residency programs exist. Recognition came with the



IN YOU GO — The Reverend Jesse Jackson being arrested in New York for civil disobedience during a protest over the plight of HIV-positive Haitians being barred from U.S. entry.

return of military doctors from Korea and Vietnam, where emergency techniques reached a new peak. Emergency medicine was recognized as a medical specialty in 1979. Of the 25,000 practicing emergency physicians in the United States, 11,570 are certified specialists. "Thus," says the Los Angeles Times, "a medical oxymoron was created, a specialty composed of generalists."

Why don't people whose systems can't tolerate cow's milk just switch to goat's milk? Because it probably wouldn't help. Usually the difficulty is the individual's lack of the enzyme lactase, which digests the sugar lactose. The lactose content is the same for the milk of goats, cows and most other mammals. The only exception is bear's milk, said Dr. Joseph Levy, chief of pediatric gastroenterology at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, "but that is hard to get."

Mike Mansfield, a U.S. senator from Montana for 33 years and U.S. ambassador to Tokyo for 11, turned 90 this week. He walks six or seven miles (up to 11 kilometers) a day, wears no hearing aid, uses glasses only for reading and has an almost flawless memory for names and figures. Asked if he had any advice, he told The Washington Post, "Not exactly, except you should never take yourself too seriously. If you win in politics, you don't win on the basis of your charm, or your education, or your good looks. There are a thousand people out there who know more than you do, who could probably do a better job, but they didn't get the breaks."

"And recognize there are two sides to almost every issue. Sometimes, the other side is right. It doesn't do any harm to listen."

Arthur Higbee

U.S. Storm Losses Put at \$800 Million

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — A leading insurance rating service has estimated that losses to insurance companies from the winter storm that struck the East Coast during the weekend would come close to \$800 million.

The death toll reached 184 on Tuesday as officials throughout the region continued to search for victims or simply struggled to get people back to work.

The storm increased anxiety among Florida officials about already rising premiums and lack of availability of homeowners' policies in that state after the destruction by a hurricane last summer.

The latest storm, officials added, could make homeowners insurance more expensive and harder to find in heavily developed storm-prone coastal areas, such as New York's Long Island.

John E. Snyder, senior vice president of A.M. Best's property casualty division, said he expected the most-recent dollar losses, including wind damage to homes and destruction of crops, to be more severe in the South than last year's tornadoes, yet less expensive to property in the Northeast than December's storm.

"This latest event is unwelcome for an industry that has been under siege with catastrophes for the better part of the last three years," Mr.

Snyder said. "It will once again challenge the industry's financial strength."

The hurricane last summer resulted in more than \$15 billion in insurance claims, while a hurricane that battered the East Coast in 1989 led to \$4.3 billion in claims.

Word was still awaited on the fate of 24 campers caught in a blizzard over the weekend while on a high school outing in the Appalachians.

In addition to the deaths — reported from Cuba to Canada — 32 crewmen were missing after a freighter sank Monday off Nova Scotia, and 16 sailors were missing off Florida.

It was one of the worst U.S. snowstorms this century. In 1956, a snowstorm left 171 people dead in East. A 1966 East Coast storm killed 165. In 1988, 400 people died in a March blizzard that dumped up to 5 feet (1.5 meters) of snow in the East.

Kaunda's Son Seized, Subversion Is Alleged

LUSAKA, Zambia — The eldest son of the former president, Kenneth Kaunda, has been arrested, the police said Tuesday. He is the third of the former leader's children detained over an alleged subversion plot.

Panji Kaunda was arrested on Sunday, and the police said he had since "accompanied" them to the eastern town of Chipata, where members of the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy said arms were being hoarded. The police declined to say whether any weapons had been found.

Go to the experts

For unique expertise in the global derivative markets

GOTTEX SA
Financial Services

ADVERTISEMENT INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS		March 16, 1993	
ABC INVESTMENT SERVICES CO (ECU)	122.9	W Amer. Growth Pk. H.V. (S)	67.84
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Dissident Iranian, Ex-Diplomat, Is Slain in Rome

Rome — An exiled Iranian opposition official was slain on the streets of Rome on Tuesday when two men on a motor scooter pulled up to his car in rush-hour traffic and blasted him in the face with bursts from an automatic rifle, the police said.

The official, Mohammed Hussein Nagdi, 42, a former Iranian diplomat who defected to Tehran's opponents a decade ago, died as the police tried to get him to a hospital after what Iranian exiles called a further episode in the underground war between Iran's Islamic leaders and their adversaries.

The Mujahidin Khalq, an opposition group with offices in many capitals, including Washington, blamed the regime of President Hashemi Rafsanjani of Iran for the killing, which recalled a similar killing of a senior mujahidin figure in Switzerland three years ago.

At that time, Kazem Rajavi, an elder brother of Massoud Rajavi, the mujahidin leader, was slain in Geneva. French police arrested two men in connection with the killing in November. In recent years, many other Iranian exiles have been slain in Europe and elsewhere, including a former prime minister, Shahpur Bakhtiari, who was stabbed to death near Paris in August 1991.

"We are sure that this is another of the Rafsanjani regime's terrorist acts," said Mehry Mousavi, the London representative of the mujahidin. The Iranian press agency, IRNA, however, said Mr. Nagdi was "most probably a victim of intergroup differences" within the exiled opposition.

Mujahidin officials in Washington, speaking by telephone, said Mr. Nagdi was not a member of their organization but headed the Rome office of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, a mujahidin-dominated umbrella group.

The Mujahidin Khalq was one of several groups that fought to overthrow the shah in Iran's 1979 revolution and later lost out to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's forces in the ensuing power struggle.

Since then, it has waged a propaganda war on the Tehran regime from its offices in the West and also boasts a military force, with bases in Iraq, that has staged cross-border raids into Iran.

The killing coincided with the start of a trial in Venice in which some 30 Italian bankers, industrialists and secret service officers are accused of making illegal arms sales to Iran worth \$130 million in contravention of an embargo during its war with Iraq from 1980 to 1988.

The accused include the former president and director general of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, whose Atlanta branch has also been implicated in illegal credits to Iraq during the same period.

— ALAN COWELL

EGYPT: Terror Bombing

(Continued from page 1)

ties allowed the museum to stay open, however.

The militant fundamentalist terrorists, known under the general designation of Islamic Group, have repeatedly signaled their responsibility for scores of fatal attacks against Egyptian officials, Coptic Christians, tourists and lately foreign businesses with the aim of shaking Egypt's economy in an attempt to bring down the government of President Hosni Mubarak.

The attack in Egypt coincided with increasing fundamentalist assaults elsewhere.

Over the last few weeks several bombings attributed to Islamic fundamentalists have rocked Kuwait, too, destroying video rental stores, a favorite target of fundamentalist terrorism in the Arab world. On Friday, a bomb exploded near the Holiday Inn, close to Kuwait's international airport. No group claimed responsibility.

The explosion in Cairo came from a small bomb placed beneath one of five tourist buses parked outside the museum, which is the home of the world's finest collection of pharaonic art.

The terror campaign is beginning to shake the confidence of the large foreign business and diplomatic community that lives in Egypt, especially after the Muslim terror groups warned publicly of their plans to add foreign businesses to their targets.

The terror groups have vowed to destroy Egypt's sources of revenue unless the government accedes to their demands, which include the establishment of an Iran-style Islamic state.

Al Ahram, the Cairo daily, reported Tuesday that a primitive bomb had been found and defused in a building in the suburb of Maadi, which is inhabited by foreigners, mostly Americans.

Foreign embassies, including that of the United States, have been warning foreigners to take special security precautions against the wave of terrorism.

— YOUSSEF M. IBRAHIM

South Africa Faces An AIDS Epidemic

By Bill Keller
New York Times Service

JOHANNESBURG — Three years ago, when words like epidemic, plague, and doomsday began appearing in South African newspapers, some experts on AIDS thought South Africa had a unique opportunity to avoid the catastrophe that had befallen other African countries.

The slow sweep of the AIDS virus southward from its equatorial epicenter and the social quarantine created by the sanctions against the apartheid government, they said, meant South Africa had time to see the menace coming and head it off.

It has not worked out that way. HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, has colonized South Africa as relentlessly as it has the rest of the continent, abetted by apartheid's children: neglect, fatalism, and mistrust.

By conservative estimates, 300,000 people, mostly black heterosexuals, are infected with the virus, and it is spreading to at least 300 new carriers daily. In about 5,000 cases so far, the virus has erupted in AIDS.

"South Africa has moved from the pre-epidemic to the epidemic phase, the point where the curve rises rapidly," said Malcolm Steinberg, who oversees AIDS programs for the South Africa Medical Research Council.

There are also advances in the campaign against the virus — notably, a belated concord between the government and the African National Congress on AIDS strategy — but most experts now say that the virus is bound to run the devastating course that has become Africa's norm. It will hit its murderous stride just as a new multiracial democracy tries to find its feet.

Peter Doyle, an analyst for Metropolitan Life Ltd., an insurance company whose forecasts are widely respected, predicts that by the end of the decade, 3 million people — more than 10 percent of the adult population — will carry the virus, and that 160,000 will be sick with the disease. The viral tide will still be rising.

Five years later, about one in four adults will carry the infection, Mr. Doyle estimates. Caring for the AIDS-afflicted will consume up to three-fourths of the national health budget, a study by the Medical Research Council found.

Despite the warning, South Africa still lags behind other African countries in combating the epidemic. Neighboring Botswana, for example, no richer than South Africa, spends three times as much per capita on the prevention and treatment of AIDS.

A deep puritanical streak in South Africa has blocked compulsory AIDS education in schools, which is common in other African countries, and has inhibited the advertising of condoms on television and radio.

Johanna Witbooi first heard of the disease in October 1991 when her doctor told her she had the virus. Now, hunched over her dining in Sacred Heart House, a Catholic hospice for AIDS patients, weakened and immobilized by tuberculosis, she says the disease is regarded with such superstition in her black township that her husband and children refuse to comfort her.

"My little sister came," she recalled in a voice hollow with resignation. "She told me: 'All these people are afraid to visit you. They think it will have them also.'"

In the province of Natal, a hub of migrant labor and border commerce that is rife with the infection, a researcher recently sent students to family-planning clinics to ask for instructions about condoms. The clinic's staff members, typically repelled by comments like "If you don't know how to use them, you shouldn't be having sex," and "Ask your boyfriend."

Natalie Steekton, who recently took over as director of the government's AIDS prevention unit, has won praise for putting the campaign on a more aggressive footing. But she describes the virus as part of a "total paradigm" including poverty, violence, illiteracy, and the powerlessness of women.

CHINA: Stronger Military

(Continued from page 1)

many countries. Other Asian countries are nervous, however, largely because China has boundary disputes with at least seven of its neighbors and has been aggressive lately in pressing its claims.

Diplomats and other military experts say that among the improved weapons systems China is building on its own or obtaining from Russia or other countries are fighter planes, surface-to-air missiles, destroyers, frigates, tanks and radar equipment. Chinese documents also say that the country will acquire an aircraft carrier.

Distressed by suggestions abroad that China is becoming a threat, officials in Beijing have launched a vigorous counteroffensive over the last few weeks to dispute such assertions.

"Recently, some people in Western countries have deliberately spread slanderous rumors that China is building up its national defense to a level 'seemingly beyond a capability for defense,'" the official Xinhua press agency complained a few weeks ago.

Prime Minister Li referred to such analyses in a meeting last month with a former U.S. secretary of state, Alexander M. Haig Jr., and said: "All these fabricated rumors and absurd tales are totally ridiculous."

A Chinese official cited inflation as a factor in rising military spending. But according to official statistics, retail prices rose less than 7 percent last year.

An analysis published in December by the China Institute for Contemporary International Relations, which is sponsored by the government's intelligence agency, said: "China has also taken note of the destabilizing factors in the adjacent areas and has to increase its defense capability moderately when possible."

While the article did not name these destabilizing factors, they probably include the upheavals in Central Asia and the competition among neighboring countries for the islands in the South China Sea.

Sympathetic diplomats — usually those from countries that are not adjacent to China — also say that it is natural for a country to bolster its military spending as its overall economy grows.



A delegate at the National People's Congress in Beijing, who did not conceal finding Tuesday's budget speeches tedious going.

CHIC: To Put it Rather Longwindedly, They're Going After the Prolix Members of Congress

(Continued from page 1)

idea that "reform" was a magic word when, egged on by the Republicans and some Democrats, the House voted in January to start streamlining its operations by killing select committees, including the one on Narcotics Abuse and Control that he headed.

In the Democratic cloakroom the other day, another senior congressman reflected the paranoia in some quarters when he approached Representative Eric D. Fingerhut, a freshman from Cleveland who won office on a platform of cleaning up Congress. Mr. Fingerhut is now co-chairman of the Democratic New Members' Task Force on Reform.

"I hear you guys are going to take away our telephones," the older member growled to the 33-year-old newcomer, who offered reassurance that, while members of Congress may have to pay for their own parking some day, their long-distance calls are safe.

On the other hand, Representative Jim Nussle of Iowa, who has just been named chairman of the Republican House Reform Task Force, is jubilant at the reinforcement of the perk-purging "Nussle Congressional Reform Package," with chapter headings

like "Use a Stamp" and "Go Home." Though the bill died in committee last year, in the hands of lawmakers who had a hard time taking a man in a paper bag seriously, he says he plans to reintroduce it.

"Reform wasn't very popular last year," Mr. Nussle said. "Now, all of a sudden, everyone's a reformer. It's almost like, 'Can you top this?'"

Since Calvinist winds have swept through the Capitol before without much effect, except to exponentially increase the number of ethics committees, it is hard to say whether anything will really change. Ever since the news release was invented, politicians have used it to portray themselves as crusaders, even if they did not care about the particular virtue they were advocating.

Even those who support the idea of revamping Congress say there is a fair amount of showboating going on.

"The problem is that there are so few perks left there isn't really much for them to go after, but they promised their constituents that they would," said James Glassman, the editor of Roll Call, a weekly Capitol Hill newspaper. "So now we are beginning to see evidence that they are descending into triviality."

Consider the case of Representative Robert D. Inglis, a 33-year-old freshman Republican from South Carolina whose starched white

shirt and close-cropped hair make him look more like an FBI agent than the archetypal paunchy, back-slapping Southern congressman.

After the House banking scandal sent a shiver of rage through the country about special treatment for members of Congress, the leadership scurried to set a fee of \$400 for the gymnasium. But increasing the fee into the vicinity of market value was not good enough for Mr. Inglis. He has sent the House Gym Association a check for \$520 and a

letter explaining that he had calculated the amount he would have to pay for a "nicer" health club in his district, and hence would pay no less for the House gym.

Unlike some of his more free-wheeling colleagues, Mr. Fingerhut said he would use his frequent-flyer miles to lower his travel expenses by buying more tickets to fly home to his district.

"You might laugh, but I feel very strongly about the ethics of frequent-flyer miles," he said. "We

bought these things with taxpayer dollars, and it's outrageous when people use them to go to Hawaii."

Representative Roscoe G. Bartlett, a freshman Republican from Maryland who lives within commuting distance of the Capitol, boasts that he has not yet submitted his first expense account, and hopes not to submit any. "I want to make a statement that it is not money that brought me here," he said. "I just want to serve the people."

A deep puritanical streak in

READY: Invasion Plans

(Continued from page 1)

house, bar, hotel, rail station and subway entrances.

If a combined East German and Soviet force had moved to conquer West Berlin and West Germany according to plan, the West would have been initially "outmaneuvered and overwhelmed," Vice Admiral Weisser said. "The operational planning was far more advanced than anything our intelligence had envisioned."

In vast cellars previously unknown to the West, according to officials, the East Germans kept huge arsenals, including weapons, vehicles and railroad equipment that would have allowed East German rolling stock to be used immediately on West German rails, which were built to different standards.

On "Day X," as the plan called the day of invasion, specific units were assigned to tasks such as capturing U.S., British and French military bases in West Berlin, shutting down airports and taking over the city's radio and TV stations, newspapers, museums, telephone switching stations, churches and universities.

The plan envisioned 32,000 troops invading a West Berlin that would be defended by 12,000 allied forces and local police.

ITALY: Scandal Deepens

(Continued from page 1)

in return for help in securing a fuel supply contract at a power station. Proclaiming his innocence, Mr. Altissimo resigned his party position after declaring: "I have nothing to do with bribes coming from ENEL or anywhere else."

Magistrates have also notified Antonio Cangelia, former head of the small Social Democrat coalition partner, that he is under investigation, meaning that all four members of the coalition have now been drawn into the scandal.

"I don't expect these players to be the players in the next game," Mr. Amato said in London, terming his own administration "a transitional government breaking the country's old rules and preparing the country for a new political system possible only with a new electoral system."

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STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT

Shakespeare, Almost the Way It Was

By John Rockwell
New York Times Service

LONDON — This winter a troupe of professional actors who call themselves the What You Will Theatre Company are traipsing about London in plays by William Shakespeare. Nothing unusual in that, one might think; London is dotted with Shakespearean actors acting Shakespeare.

But these actors are doing it largely without rehearsal. Each knows his or her own part, but not anyone else's. All they have are cues, three-word tags that trigger their own next lines.

They also do without sets, lighting, extraneous props and, naturally, a stage director. Just a playing space, stock costumes, a banner or sword or chair, an audience and a text: Shakespeare's original, learned from its First Folio typography, which is supposed to provide all the cues the actors need as to scansion and emphasis.

The search for "authenticity," so popular in classical music, came relatively late to acting. But in acting, the movement is well under way, to judge from this troupe and its parent, the Original Shakespeare Co. Ltd., as well as from attempts to recreate the physical conditions of Elizabethan theater, most notably in the long-standing effort to reconstruct the Globe Theatre near its actual London site.

In no way did a What You Will performance of "Twelfth Night" seem amateurish, and it certainly avoided the excesses of "directors' theater."

"Why should I have a director if I can do it myself?" argued Anne Atkins, one of the quartet of actors who founded the What You Will company.

There are several reasons the quest for authenticity has lagged in theater. Little physical evidence, such as musical instruments, remains to provide the basis for a stylistic reconstruction. There is a text, but no real way, so it was thought, to ascertain the acting style that animated that text centuries ago.

Besides, in England especially, the continuing performance tradition has been so strong that scholarly efforts to reinvent the form met a wall of resistance. If few thought the art of Shakespearean acting was broken, there was little impetus to fix it.

Discussions as to just how Shakespeare's

plays were performed at the dawn of the 17th century have abounded for years. The current efforts owe their direct lineage, it would seem, to John Barton, the Royal Shakespeare Company director. He personally inspired Patrick Tucker, who worked with the company's educational wing, but who is now best known as the director of the popular British soap opera, "Brookside," on ITV.

Tucker put his ideas into practice at a Royal Shakespeare workshop performance of "Romeo and Juliet" at the University of Western Kentucky in 1975 and has been refining them ever since.

The problem, as he conceived it, was that the Globe Theatre actors, to judge from their surviving performance schedules, presented a dizzy

To keep them from making off with plays, actors were given only their own parts.

zyng range of plays every week, with a couple of premieres a month. How could they fit in all that work? His conclusion was that they simply learned their lines and leapt onto the stage, dispensing with all the bothersome baggage of a modern theatrical rehearsal, and gaining in spontaneity and alertness in the process.

"My work in television has reinforced my work in Shakespeare," he conceded. "I shoot 'Brookside' all day, and once you've done it, you forget it. That's what television acting is, and it's probably what Elizabethan actors did, too."

"Of course," Atkins added gravely, "the only difference is that the writing in 'Brookside' and the writing in Shakespeare are poles apart."

Tucker also suggests that the lack of copyright protection in Elizabethan times and the enthusiasm of rival impresarios to poach popular plays encouraged a method whereby no one but the author knew the entire play. Actors were given only their own parts — period "cue scripts" have survived — and hence couldn't defect and take hit plays with them.

The First Folio, Tucker contends, with its antique punctuation and capitalization, provides all the indications an actor needs. "The First Folio is stuffed full of actors' notes, stripped by modern editors," he said.

Even Tucker and his disciples concede that much of their work is speculative. "A lot of the fine-tuning of what we do is just plain guesswork," said David Angus, a What You Will actor. But Tucker argues that no plausible counter-theories have been advanced.

There have been compromises. Neither Tucker's Original Shakespeare Company nor the What You Will company — with Atkins — cast boys in women's roles. Tucker argues that some women did act in Elizabethan times and that "boys" really meant postpubescent apprentices. But he also concedes, "I have a large number of actresses who want to work this way."

In addition, presenting several consecutive performances of the same play, even in different locations, robs all performances after the first of the ideal freshness. For that, one would need a closely packed repertory of different plays, as well as a stunted education in which modern actors and audiences could somehow encounter Shakespeare without prior knowledge.

HENCE no one is ready to jettison the modern British Shakespeare tradition altogether. Sam Wanamaker, the London-based American director and actor who leads the project to reconstruct the Globe Theatre, says he prefers a more open-ended approach in which Tucker's method would be employed for only one "purely educational" production a season.

Wanamaker places his faith in the structure itself, which he says will be the first to come even close to the actual conditions of Shakespeare's time. But even so, some guessing is involved, since the Globe site cannot be systematically excavated, given a more recent, historically protected building constructed above it.

"The physical conditions — no sets, natural lighting, natural acoustics — will impose the conditions of the performances," Wanamaker contended. "But we don't want to present museum theater."

The Globe construction is well under way, proceeding at a leisurely pace to match the intake of funds. It has been dogged for years by money problems. Even now, only a third of the more than \$30 million needed has been raised, and the opening of the Globe Theatre itself, not counting the projected surrounding structures, has been put off until the spring of 1994 at the earliest.

Mamet's 'Squirrels': Writer's Block

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Thirty or so years back, the success of Edward Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" led a large number of young American playwrights to think they too could write two-handers about disparate men thrown together by circumstance in which the power gradually shifts from one to the other. One of these was evidently David Mamet, the

LONDON THEATER

stage and screenwriter who has set New York's chattering classes abuzz with "Oleanna," a somewhat fragile political-correctness dialogue soon to be seen in London with David Suchet in a Harold Pinter production at the Royal Court.

Always beware, however, early unstage plays by dramatists who later became famous. There is usually some reason that these have not been staged before. The King's Head in Islington now gives us Mamet's "Squirrels," written two decades ago but only now getting its European premiere and not a moment too soon or late.

Here we have a novelist who for 15 years has been struggling to write the opening paragraph of a story about a man on a park bench having his hand bitten by a squirrel. But a writer's block does not make for an unblemished play, and there is nothing that even the gaunt, graying, admirable Edward Petherbridge can do here to make us care about Mamet's hero, or his cleaning lady (Sara Kestelman) or his assistant (Steven O'Shea), all of whom drift around this desultory, lethargic 90-minute piece in vague hopes that Mamet might have left its plot lying about somewhere in acres of circular dialogue.

In Aaron Mullen's reverently aimless production, there is just the sound of a dramatist desperately trying to learn his trade with the audience already in their seats.

In a time of considerable commercial peril around the West End, most managements are playing safe. But the management at the Aldwych is playing it safer still. Having landed the catch of the season, Maggie Smith as Lady Bracknell for "The Importance of Being Earnest," they've surrounded her with her last



Petherbridge (top) and O'Shea in "Squirrels."

"Letting it Love" cast (Margaret Tyzack and Richard Pearson), plus the National's hottest director (Nicholas Hytner), plus a chic young movie star from "Dracula" and "The Player" (Richard E. Grant), and the best thing to have emerged from Jonathan Miller's Old Vic (Alex Jennings). The result ought to be an unqualified triumph, but it's not.

True, Dame Maggie is stupendous: Her Bracknell is the only one

to challenge Edith Evans in my lifetime, and it does so by coming from an altogether different corner of the text. The Smith/Bracknell is no dominant dowager, cascading from a great social height, but instead an infinitely more neurotic parvenue, deeply uncertain of her own social security and therefore all the more determined not to get caught up with babies found in handbags at Victoria Station, no matter the time.

As for Algeon and John Worthing, Grant and Jennings start the evening as a couple of lip-kissing gay young things, an intriguing intellectual idea, given the trials of Oscar Wilde's private life at the time he was writing this, but one that is incapable of being sustained once the women appear. All through the evening, there is the fatal offstage sound of intellectual ideas about the play crashing unfinished into the scenery: only the Dams and her despised team (Tyzack) seem to know exactly what they are doing. The two women, Claire Skinner and Susannah Harker, are hopelessly out of period and even the great and good Pearson seems not quite yet to have caught the measure of Chasuble. All in all a deeply tentative evening.

AND finally, out at the Riverside Studios, "I Wake My Privity" is an intriguing five-character cabaret built around the work of the poet and lyricist Fran Landesman, she of "Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most." Jacqueline Dankworth leads a strong cast for Linda Marlowe, and Landesman's bittersweet, quirky wit, somewhere halfway from Dory Previn back to Ogden Nash, reminds us yet again of the need London has for a resident cabaret theater, where all such songbook shows could find a semi-permanent home.

Faced with the need to give this one some sort of a frame, Marlowe has set it at a dinner party from hell where the lovesick diners and a manic waitress exchange bitter romantic and marital and sexual experiences in poems set to a jazz beat and the occasional parody ("Parsnips, where the rage keeps tearing through the brain") of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" Most of Landesman's bittersweet lyrics are about lost love and found mistakes ("I met him at a jumble sale, a slightly damaged adult male") and they are lively with regret.

New Festival Director

NEW YORK — The New York Shakespeare Festival has fired JoAnne Akalaitis, the theater's director, and hired the Broadway playwright George C. Wolfe to succeed her.

Akalaitis was the artistic director chosen by the festival's founder, Joseph Papp, who died in 1991. The board of trustees appointed Wolfe artistic director as well as producer of the festival, one of the leading nonprofit theaters in the United States.

Akalaitis's troubled 20-month tenure was marked by a decline in funding and subscriptions and a sporadic production schedule.

Chabrol's Hard Look at Vichy Newsreels

By Joan Dupont

PARIS — Movie houses during the Occupation were full. Before the feature, France-Païse-Accablés treated audiences to a stream of propaganda in praise of Marshal Pétain and his Vichy regime. The newsreels also painted late messages against France's "enemies": Bolsheviks, Freemasons and foreigners.

Claude Chabrol's "L'Œil de Vichy," a two-hour assemblage from those archives, news of Occupied France skewed by the collaborationist media. Now we can see what French moviegoers were looking at from June 1940 to August 1944: Jews depicted as foraging rats; Allied bombings presented as atrocities; Wehrmacht soldiers on the Russian front portrayed as heroes.

Producer Jean-Pierre Ramsay, who initiated the project, said Chabrol was the perfect director to "write the neck of Vichy." The historians Robert O. Paxton and Jean-Pierre Azéma acted as consultants and wrote the brief commentary, spoken by Michel Bouquet, who narrated Alain Resnais's "Nuit et Brouillard" ("Night and Fog") in 1955.

critical eye, an intelligent montage of documents, with significant omissions, insistent repetitions and ironic cuts. A shot of the meeting between Pétain and Hitler is shown repeatedly, but no image exists of the detention of Jewish families in the Vel d'Hiv, the Velodrome d'Hiver sports stadium, who subsequently made up convoys for Auschwitz; instead, the newsreel that week of July 1942 showed a "Fresh Air Crusade," parents waving their children off on vacation.

Fifty years after Vichy, members of the regime who manipulated the country and the media appear as grotesque as movie villains — the strange blind face of Georges Scapini, a Vichy diplomat assigned to look after the interests of French POWs in Germany, Jacques Doriot, the French fascist leader with the style of a revivalist, and the fastidious silhouette of René Bouquet, the police chief behind the Vel d'Hiv arrests.

Some critics have remarked that despite his sophisticated montage, Chabrol's studied lack of a point of view detracts from the usefulness of his documentary. Jean Daniel in Le Nouvel Observateur and Jérôme Garcin and Anne Andrieu in L'Événement du Jeudi are concerned that the film, by not clearly explaining these images, keeps today's generation in the dark. Daniel

Heymann in Le Monde noted that the association of Jews and rats may still remain stamped on unwary public imagination; the wonders if young people today have the perspective, the tools to see through the lies of Vichy.

Resnais's "Nuit et Brouillard" and Marcel Ophüls's "The Sorrow and the Pity" (1971), were dramatic revelations in their day. Can a documentary about Vichy 50 years later have the same kind of impact? Chabrol holds up a mirror, a deformed image that people who lived under a Occupation probably prefer to forget, to a generation that has little passion for history.

Chabrol's fascination with the past goes way back. Raised during the Vichy regime by parents in the Résistance, he has made feature films from chronicles of crime and punishment — men who manipulate crowds, who murder their wives, women who poison their husbands or themselves, characters like Madame Bovary, Landru and Mabuse. Now, a month before René Bouquet comes up for trial, he has told a diabolical story straight, and set it in the eye of the storm.

Joan Dupont is a Paris-based writer specializing in the arts.

PARIS FASHION

Montana Feels the Prevailing Winds

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The tempest that battered the United States has its fashion parallel. A hurricane of change is blowing, with new ideas whirling, drifting, altering the familiar landscape and obscuring established monuments. There is the sense this autumn-winter season that strong designers are standing firm, bending with the prevailing wind, but rooted to what they know and understand. To put it more succinctly, the big names are not making news.

In Claude Montana's show Tuesday, his icy sculptured tailoring had melted — but only at the edges. Here a coat sleeve flared gently, there a short swing jacket was pinked at its hem. Lush chenille, furrowed cord, plush velvet, suede and fur were soft — but their silhouettes were still sharp.

It was a swashbuckling collection with a romantic feeling done in a modern way: a pristine white collar and cuffs to a clerically correct coat, or suede Puss in Boots striding out with ribbed leggings under a brief jacket. We have seen and worn that look before, but Montana freshened it with a Robin Hood theme — his subtle way of using a costume-party inspiration without delving into a trunk of old clothes.

The show opened with a precisely tailored long coat and then the swing jackets over wide pants. They looked best in jewel-colored corduroy velvet — to-paz, emerald, sapphire, tourmaline, turquoise, with matching leggings and suede boots. Like a lot of Montana's work, they might be daunting to wear, but they made a striking passage in the show.

What will his aficionados wear? Pants, of course, cut wide beneath the swing jackets which was a strong proportion. Montana does not really believe in long skirts, although he made them credible, and even desirable, in slender ribbed knit under an elongated tunic sweater. All the knitwear was strong from the ribbed daytime tunics to a black chenille open-work sweater at night.

The rest was graphic tailoring in navy and white, gray flannel stroked at the collar with black velvet or chocolate wool softened with satin trim. Montana's signature leather and shearing jackets took well to the Merry Men theme, with flat collars



Montana's shearing jacket à la Robin Hood; Alaïa pushes bust up and hem down.

swirling round the shoulders and the jackets curving in above the narrow hose.

The sexy-fashion-starved photographers were overjoyed when the word went round that Azzaïne Alaïa was showing. "Na-omi! Naomi!" they cat-called as supermodel Campbell sashayed out in a clinging one-piece suit. "Carla, Carla, Carla," they drooled as Bruni's bust rose up and over a mid-calf knitted tube. "Linda, lovely Linda," they cried at Evangelista, even though she was wearing an apron dress over a white shirt, which is the nearest Alaïa will get to a nunery.

The designer of sexpot silhouettes had changed — but in his fashion. A chaste silky cardigan slithered to the ankles — but then opened to show deep-cut panties and a bra top. Hems down, necklines scooped was Alaïa's method of dealing with elongated skirts. He also sent out skirts brief, shorts sweet and tops baring the midriff.

Katharine Hamnett has dis-

covered grunge six months after everyone else. But maybe the British designer never really left the sexy/scuffy/hippie look behind. Her contribution to fashion this season was not weighty. In fact it can best be described as a bit of fluff: Mongolian lamb (a hot back-to-the-1970s-trend) edged calf-length vests and ankle boots; sweaters were as hairy as a mountain goat, snow white, cropped off to show a bared midriff over a low-slung skirt. The flung-together look of flower children gone to seed was on target for fashion now. But will it survive until winter?

Designers who are on a young wavelength just don't care about hemlines. July Bët sent out an upbeat collection, always with a skinny, body-hugging silhouette, but with hems stopping any where from mid-calf to mid-thigh. Designer Lamine Kouyaté makes re-cycled clothes — a strong story this season. But instead of making the collection look ecological and worthy, there were vivid colors and sexy

shapes for the apron dresses wrapping the body or the layered stretch dresses, made up of sweatshirts, T-shirts, old cardigans and new party hose that Kouyaté gives his own individual stamp.

Launv — although not in its ready-to-wear — was once Claude Montana's patch. His brief stint at the couture house has left an indelible mark on the house. There was nothing exactly wrong with Dominique Morlot's collection, which contained fine long coats, the best gathered gently at the back to soften the tailored lines and in rich wintry colors like cranberry, pine green or peat brown. Since his background is as a menswear designer, Morlot played on a dandy theme for pantsuits with curving jackets. Hair was slicked into loose pin curls. Not a jewel broke the stern lines. The clothes might be nice to wear (the actress Emmanuelle Béart sitting center front was in a lather of excitement). It was dead boring to sit through.

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Herald Tribune

Dissuade North Korea

North Korea may not yet be in a position to use those nuclear arms it has allegedly been developing. But for the past few days, it has been flirting with diplomatic suicide and scaring a lot of people. It announced withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and, for good measure, partial mobilization of its million-strong military.

A Start on Base-Closings

The Clinton administration was required by law to submit a list of military bases to be closed, but nothing in the law said the list had to be serious. The fact that it is a serious list speaks well of the president and the defense secretary who compiled it.

Truth About El Salvador

A UN Truth Commission now confirms what the Reagan administration sought to cloud — that terrible crimes were perpetrated in freedom's name by the armed forces of El Salvador. Its report serves the past by baring the truth, and the future by calling for the removal of accused officers and the banishment from public posts of rebel leaders responsible for human-rights crimes.

Other Comment

The West's Russia Dilemma
The West has moved a step closer to pumping renewed financial aid into Russia to bolster President Boris Yeltsin's shaky economic reforms.



The Outside World Cannot Determine Russia's Fate

TOKYO — The emergency meeting Sunday of the Group of Seven major industrialized democracies was ostensibly aimed at supporting President Boris Yeltsin in his power struggle against conservative forces in the Russian parliament.

From Moscow to Mexico, a Population Trap Looms

WASHINGTON — When President Bill Clinton meets President Boris Yeltsin in Vancouver, British Columbia, on April 3, one topic that ought to be on the agenda is the unavailability of modern contraceptives in most of Russia, and the low priority that Moscow gives to women's health.

Beyond the Legends, St. Patrick Belongs to Us All

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — In America, St. Patrick's Day is a quintessential ethnic celebration, highlighting Irish-American identity as not-British, not-Protestant, not-Italian or Polish (although Roman Catholic like these), certainly not-black or Jewish, and in some quarters, not-homosexual.

The Barriers To a German Peace Force

MUNICH — The debate in Germany on whether the Bundeswehr should join in international attempts to keep and enforce the peace worldwide has centered on constitutional barriers. Many politicians reinforce the impression that German constitutional law is the only obstacle to military normality.

1893: A Woman Doctor

BRUSSELS — Mile. Clarence Everart, a young lady twenty-six years of age, to-day [March 16] passed with the highest distinction the examination for the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

1918: Using Dutch Ships

LONDON — There is reason to believe that Holland, in her reply to the Allied Note with reference to the requisitioning of Dutch ships in American and British ports, will offer to conclude an agreement with the main condition that Dutch ships will not be forced to navigate in the danger zone.

1943: An American Loss

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA [From our New York edition:] The Americans lost their first major battle with the German Army in the central Tunisian fighting from Feb. 14 to 16 because of an error in intelligence combined with a faulty disposition of troops.

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NYSE

Tuesday's Closing
Tables include the worldwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE
120.00	115.00	IBM	3.00	2.7%	13.0	120.00	115.00	IBM	3.00	2.7%	13.0
100.00	95.00	Microsoft	0.00	0.0%	15.0	100.00	95.00	Microsoft	0.00	0.0%	15.0
50.00	45.00	Apple	0.00	0.0%	12.0	50.00	45.00	Apple	0.00	0.0%	12.0
20.00	18.00	Oracle	0.00	0.0%	10.0	20.00	18.00	Oracle	0.00	0.0%	10.0
15.00	14.00	Novartis	0.50	3.3%	11.0	15.00	14.00	Novartis	0.50	3.3%	11.0
10.00	9.00	Merck	0.40	4.0%	10.0	10.00	9.00	Merck	0.40	4.0%	10.0
8.00	7.50	Roche	0.30	3.8%	10.0	8.00	7.50	Roche	0.30	3.8%	10.0
6.00	5.50	Novo	0.20	3.3%	10.0	6.00	5.50	Novo	0.20	3.3%	10.0
4.00	3.50	Amgen	0.10	2.5%	10.0	4.00	3.50	Amgen	0.10	2.5%	10.0
3.00	2.80	Genentech	0.00	0.0%	10.0	3.00	2.80	Genentech	0.00	0.0%	10.0
2.00	1.80	Amgen	0.00	0.0%	10.0	2.00	1.80	Amgen	0.00	0.0%	10.0
1.50	1.40	Amgen	0.00	0.0%	10.0	1.50	1.40	Amgen	0.00	0.0%	10.0

U.S. Trade Deficit Yawns

Desert Storm Payments Dried Up in '92

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The U.S. current-account deficit, the broadest measure of trade performance, widened abruptly last year because foreign contributions for American military leadership dried up, the Commerce Department said Tuesday.

"Cash contributions from coalition partners in Operation Desert Storm held down the current-account deficit in 1991, but no sizable contributions were received in 1992," said the official report.

The total deficit shot up to \$62.4 billion, from \$3.7 billion in 1991, when the United States was receiving cash contributions from military allies for its leadership in the successful campaign to oust Iraq from Kuwait.

The Commerce Department said the 1992 shortfall in the U.S. current account was the widest gap since it totaled \$92.12 billion in 1990.

The cash payments artificially held down the 1991 current-account shortfall and distorted the statistics on U.S. trade performance.

The current account measures trade not only in merchandise but also in services, as well as investment flows between countries.

During the fourth quarter last year, the deficit widened to \$22 billion from \$15.8 billion. A slimmer quarterly deficit on merchandise trade was more than offset by smaller surpluses on services and investment income by higher government grants than in the third quarter.

The deficit on merchandise trade in the fourth quarter fell to \$26 billion, from \$27.6 billion in the third quarter.

But the U.S. surplus on services like travel and insurance fell to \$12.9 billion, from \$15.7 billion. At the same time, the fourth-quarter surplus on overseas investments contracted to \$839 million from the third quarter's \$2.97 billion.

Many analysts had also expected the current-account deficit to widen last year as weakness in economies overseas cut into U.S. exports. Exports had been one of the few areas of strength in the American economy in the last four years.

The government also announced Tuesday that new housing construction rose 2.5 percent in February, propped by a rebound in apartment projects.

February's annual rate of 1.208 million starts followed an 8.4 percent decrease in January to 1.178 million, earlier reported as a 7.2 percent loss to 1.19 million.

But the Commerce Department noted in its report that single-family housing construction lost ground for the second consecutive month.

"The lower mortgage rates aren't helping the market as well as they should," said Marco Babic, an economist at Evans Economics in Washington.

(Reuters, AP, UPI)

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE
120.00	115.00	IBM	3.00	2.7%	13.0	120.00	115.00	IBM	3.00	2.7%	13.0
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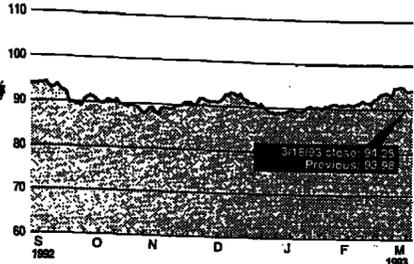
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15.00	14.00	Novartis	0.50	3.3%	11.0	15.00	14.00	Novartis	0.50	3.3%	11.0
10.00	9.00	Merck	0.40	4.0%	10.0	10.00	9.00	Merck	0.40	4.0%	10.0
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2.00	1.80	Amgen	0.00	0.0%	10.0	2.00	1.80	Amgen	0.00	0.0%	10.0
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THE TRIB INDEX: 94.28



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and Australia...

Table with 3 columns: Asia/Pacific, Europe, N. America. Includes sub-tables for Industrial Sectors.

For readers desiring more information about the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index...

MEDIA MARKETS

No Thrills, but Wolters Delivers Happy Endings

By Jon Henley

AMSTERDAM — "EEC Legislation" and "VAT Briefing" may not be everyone's idea of a fun read...

Its business is 'need-to-know, not nice-to-know' information.

"We may not be exactly glamorous, but you can be sure of no nasty surprises from us," said Cor Brakel...

Wolters on Tuesday reported net earnings up 21 percent for 1992...

Share analysts agreed that Wolters Kluwer's products are not thriller material...

Since early 1990, Wolters' stock has outperformed the general market's CBS index by 45 percent...

Wolters sells virtually nothing to the general mass-market consumer. Its business is in what Mr. Brakel calls 'need-to-know, not nice-to-know' information...

The company has operations in eight European countries as well

See KLUWER, Page 13

VW Net Tumbles By 87%

Lopez Is Named Production Chief

By Erik Ipsen

BONN — Volkswagen AG, Europe's largest carmaker, said on Tuesday that its net profit had tumbled 87 percent in 1992...

A company statement issued after a much-anticipated supervisory board meeting also said José Ignacio López de Arriortua...

VW's group net profit in 1992 tumbled to 147 million DM (\$88.5 million), from 1.1 billion the year before...

Strong sales in the first half of 1992 helped VW boost group revenue for the full year by 12 percent...

VW had blamed weak sales in the second half of the strong mark and provisions for cuts in its work force...

In addition to the cut in its common stock dividend, VW cut its dividend on preference shares to 2 DM each from 12 DM in 1991...

VW's supervisory board also approved a reshuffle of top management under the aegis of Chairman Ferdinand Piech.

Mr. Lopez, 52, will replace Günter Hartwich, 57, as the man responsible for VW's global production.

Dieter Ullsperger, 47, chief financial officer, will leave VW and be replaced by Werner Schmidt, 60, formerly head of sales.

Ulrich Seiffers, 51, responsible for research and development, will leave the group management board.

The arrival of Mr. Lopez, who is known as one of the toughest managers in the industry...

Analysts are signaling a fundamental change of attitude at VW, away from the single-minded pursuit of expansion and market share.

Britain Aims for Growth, for Now

By Erik Ipsen

LONDON — Britain's chancellor of the Exchequer presented a budget on Tuesday that quickly won plaudits for its reluctance to name on the fragile recovery in prospect...

"This is a budget for sustained recovery, a budget for jobs," Norman Lamont told a packed House of Commons in a detailed speech lasting nearly two hours...

For the fiscal year beginning in April, the chancellor pledged that his proposals would be broadly neutral, clawing a bit of money from users of company cars and smokers...

That neutrality will shift with an unexpected vengeance next year, however. "In subsequent years, my proposals will build in a wedge of steadily rising revenues," Mr. Lamont said...

To demonstrate the government's commitment to curbing its deficit, Mr. Lamont said he would not wait. Instead, he will seek to put his new tax measures into law this year even though they will not actually begin to take effect until the following year.

Among the more important revenue raisers was an extension of the value-added tax to cover domestic fuel and power bills. In 1994, those charges will carry a VAT of 8 percent...

The need for such huge revenues to be raised was underlined by the chancellor's own surprisingly gloomy predictions for next year's public-sector deficit...

"I do not believe that borrowing on this scale is acceptable," Mr. Lamont said.

He went so far as to brand the steady rise in the government's borrowing as the greatest threat posed to the recovery of Britain's flat-topped economy...

In spite of his predictions of growth of 1.25 percent this year rising to 3 percent in the first half of next year, Mr. Lamont insisted that it would be folly to simply wait for "the recovery to solve all our problems."

National insurance contributions will also rise next year. The chancellor will increase the tax rate there from 9 percent to 10 percent

See BRITAIN, Page 13

Late-Braking Mazda Goes Into a Skid

By Steven Brill

TOKYO — When Japanese car sales surged in the bubble economy of the late 1980s, executives at Mazda Motor Corp. saw a chance to emerge from the second pack of Japanese automakers...

Like most of its domestic competitors, Mazda went on a spending spree. The Hiroshima-based company nearly tripled its capital investment to open an ultra-modern plant, design new sports and luxury models...

Yet for a company that nearly went bankrupt in the mid-1970s, when high energy prices braked demand for its gas-guzzling Wankel rotary engine, success was like a narcotic...

It was slow to notice the impact of the bursting of Japan's bubble economy of stock and real estate speculation. So even though the Japanese car market began contracting from 1991, Mazda was slow to hit the brakes on spending and product development.

The result, analysts say, is that while Mazda continues to add to an impressive lineup of vehicles — it will probably introduce another two or three models this year — its market share has been slipping the past two years...

It is burdened by a proliferation of expensive-to-make cars that often compete with each other, at a time when reducing the number of models and paring production costs has become the name of the game.

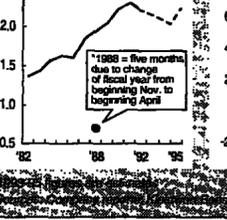
"It was very difficult for them to admit that the party was over and it was time to retrench," said Stephen Usher, an analyst at Kleinwort Benson Securities. "They lost sight of the market and their cost structure."

Mazda, of course, is not the only

Downshift at Mazda

Net sales in billions of yen

Profit in billions of yen



International Herald Tribune

1992 = five months due to change of fiscal year beginning April

Current profit

Net income

1992 = five months due to change of fiscal year beginning April

Current profit

Net income

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1992 = five months due to change of fiscal year beginning April

The Uneasiness Spreads In Hong Kong Business

By Kevin Murphy

HONG KONG — Business in Hong Kong is hunkering down to ride out another round of instability as China and Britain remain at odds over political reform.

Especially at risk are businesses sensitive to a downturn in confidence and they are bracing themselves for a difficult few weeks.

Luxury retailers, car dealers, commercial real estate salesmen and corporate dealmakers can suffer when wait-and-see stock-market sentiment affects other major decisions.

Although the stock market rose 2.1 percent Tuesday on bargain hunting after a two-day, 8 percent slide, local investors were still jittery about China's intentions.

"The immediate question is whether China is irritated that the stock market is not trembling enough," said Clive Rigby, managing director of Lippo Securities.

"People are worried about what China may say or do next, but this is essentially a bull market because of what is going on over the border."

Hong Kong's governor, Chris Patten, said Tuesday that he still hoped to meet with Chinese officials to discuss his democratic reform proposals. He told reporters: "We set out at the end of the week our position and no one, I think, has questioned its reasonableness."

An offer made in London on Monday by the British foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, to open talks

on Hong Kong's political future went unheeded by Beijing, and the Hang Seng Index regained 125.43 points to close at 5,980.04 on volume that shrank from Monday's hectic trading.

International investors seeking exposure to China's booming economy have largely ignored the diplomatic fall-out that arose when Mr. Patten on Friday gazetted plans to expand the electoral base for 1995 elections to Hong Kong's Legislative Council. Foreign buyers have been credited with fueling both the Hang Seng's year-long rise and Tuesday's turnaround.

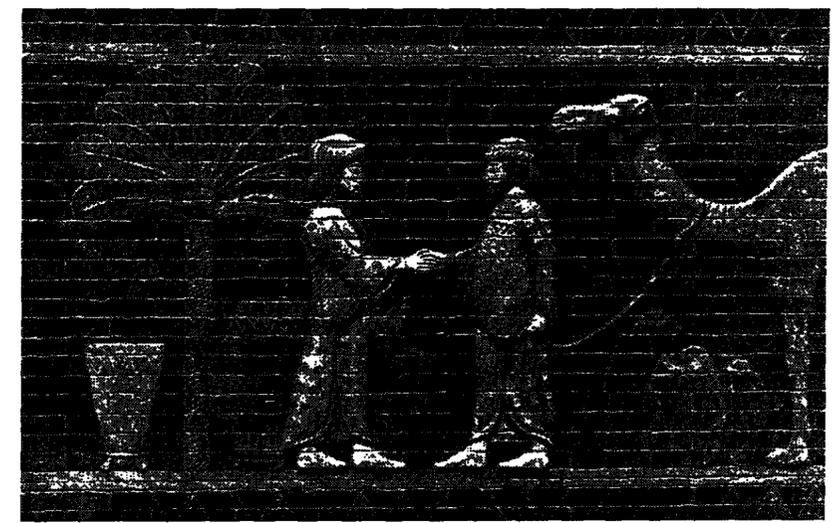
Steep drops in stock prices experienced in November and December last year, when the Hang Seng fell from a then-record high of 6,447 to 4,978 in a few days, apparently took their toll on consumer confidence in the top end of the market for fashion and automobiles last year.

Analysts are watching closely to see if rattled investors will necessarily shy away from big-ticket purchases this time around, as was reported in the pre-Christmas retail season last year. Some observers blame softness in sales of luxury goods on Hong Kong's high inflation, 9.4 percent in 1992, but others say market downturns and political uncertainty played a major role.

"When things are looking especially uncertain here, people have to weigh up the cost of a new Mercedes

See UNEASE, Page 15

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Speculators Target the Franc Focus Is on Election, Bundesbank's Intentions

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches PARIS — The Bank of France acted to support the franc against the Deutsche mark on Tuesday for the second day running, currency dealers said, as speculative selling continued ahead of the French elections and the Bundesbank council meeting.

The next government may be tempted to let the currency float so that it can cut interest rates and spur economic growth. The first round of the election is this Sunday.

French Companies See No Imminent Recovery

PARIS — Industrial production generally stagnated in February and companies see no early recovery, the Bank of France said Tuesday.

Expectations for the Bundesbank to cut its official Lombard and discount rates have been dampened by the statement Monday by its president, Helmut Schlesinger, that inflation at 4 percent was still running too high.

But Mr. Bowen said that in contrast, other Bundesbank officials had underlined the role of M-3, the key German money supply measure, in the Bundesbank's credit policy decisions.

Speculation about a German rate cut was whetted after the government coalition parties, the Social Democratic opposition and leaders of Germany's regional states agreed over the weekend on a "solidarity pact" to bring public finances back into balance after unification.

Airtours Bid for Rival Is Scuppered by Cook

LONDON — Airtours PLC said Tuesday that its £265 million (£382 million) bid to take over a rival travel company, Owners Abroad Group PLC, had failed. It blamed the competing bid launched last week by Thomas Cook.

Monetary Expansion Hits Ruble

MOSCOW — The ruble slipped to a new low on the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange on Tuesday, sliding to 662 rubles per dollar from the previous record of 653.

Investor's Europe. Frankfurt DAX, London FTSE 100 Index, Paris CAC 40. Includes a line graph showing index trends from 1992 to 1993 and a table of exchange rates.

Last Springtime Run At the British Budget

LONDON — For many economists, the most important and undoubtedly the most appealing thing about Tuesday's official unveiling of the budget is that it will never happen again.

BRITAIN: A 'Budget for Jobs'

(Continued from first finance page) and net the Treasury £1.8 billion annually in the process.

EC Accepts Offer On Korean Chips

BRUSSELS — European semiconductor manufacturers said Tuesday the price of their products would not increase following the minimum price undertaken by South Korean makers announced by the EC Commission.

Very briefly:

- Dessault Electronique SA said it had a net loss of 226 million francs (\$40.4 million) in 1992, compared with a profit of 64 million francs in 1991, mostly because of a restructuring charge of 210 million francs.

KLUWER: Few Thrills, Big Gains

(Continued from first finance page) as the United States and is still pursuing an aggressive but narrowly targeted takeover campaign. It has snapped up over 20 mainly small, fast-growing publishers in niche markets since 1989.

ECCENTRIC: The Incredible Case of the Disappearing Spanish Engineer

(Continued from page 1) broad re-examination of operations at GM, an automaker that still makes about 70 percent of its parts.

ECENTRIC: The Incredible Case of the Disappearing Spanish Engineer

It is not clear to me what his intentions are or where he is at this time," Mr. Smith said, acknowledging that Mr. Lopez's wife and three daughters had wanted to return to Europe.

ECENTRIC: The Incredible Case of the Disappearing Spanish Engineer

Mr. Lopez, a fiercely passionate Basque native, succeeded during the last year where others had failed: saving GM hundreds of millions of dollars in costs and tearing up contracts with longtime suppliers who were believed to be inefficient.

NYSE Tuesday's Closing. Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Includes sections for NYSE High-Lows and AMEX High-Lows.

NYSE High-Lows. Tables listing stock prices, including columns for High, Low, and Change. Includes sections for NYSE High-Lows and AMEX High-Lows.

INTERNATIONAL BOND TRUST. Dividend Announcement. 2, boulevard Royal, L-2953 Luxembourg. International Bond Trust will pay a dividend of USD 1.20 on March 23, 1993.

ESCORTS & GUIDES. BELLE EPOCH, MERCEDES, INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED. (Continued From Page 17). Includes contact information for various travel services.

Premium offices and services at a prestigious address. Modern fully equipped and serviced offices available on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. Includes contact information for various office services.

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AMEX Tuesday's Closing Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Table with columns: 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, % Chg, High/Low/Last/Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

Table with columns: 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, % Chg, High/Low/Last/Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

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Advertisement for 'All of Europe in your briefcase' featuring a travel guide to 32 European cities. Includes an image of a briefcase and contact information for the publisher.

Advertisement for IASDA (International Association of Securities Dealers) with a logo and text.

Japan's Surplus Edges Higher Growth Rate Slackens as Exports Decline

Agence France-Press
TOKYO—Japan's trade surplus grew at the slowest pace in almost one-and-a-half years in February, when 29 months of uninterrupted export gains came to an end, the Finance Ministry said Tuesday.

The decline in exports, the first since May 1990, mainly reflected a slump in shipments to Europe—particularly Germany, Britain and France—although exports to other major markets such as South Korea and Canada were also down.

The overall surplus grew by 3.7 percent from a year earlier, to \$10.6 billion, and was up from \$5.3 billion in January. The increase marked two years and two months of uninterrupted growth and propelled the imbalance in the first 11 months of the current fiscal year to a record of almost \$99 billion.

Exports fell by 0.5 percent to less than \$28 billion, while imports fell by 2.8 percent to \$17.4 billion. The decline in imports reflected the Japanese recession and, to some extent, a reduction of purchases of beef before a further reduction in tariffs in April, a Finance Ministry official said.

Japan's trade surplus with the European Community narrowed by 18.7 percent to \$2.7 billion, as exports dropped 14.4 percent to \$4.9 billion. Imports from Europe fell by 8.2 percent to \$2.2 billion.

Japan's trade surplus with the United States, its biggest trading partner, grew by 19.2 percent to \$4.4 billion during the month.

■ Lotte to Import Gum
 Lotte Corp., a major Japanese candy maker, has begun marketing chewing gum produced at its U.S. subsidiary to cope with the recent appreciation of the yen, United Press International quoted a company official as saying Tuesday.

The Japanese currency has gained against the dollar so rapidly that it is cheaper for Lotte to import its U.S.-made products rather than to manufacture them in Japan, the official said.

Beijing Still Can't Get a Handle On Its Runaway Budget Deficit

Reuters
BEIJING—China's finance minister warned Tuesday of "great financial difficulties" as he announced another large budget deficit this year, boosted by subsidies to state industry and runaway investment.

Liu Zhongli told the legislature that the total deficit for 1993 was forecast at \$4.4 billion yuan (\$14.8 billion), compared with a deficit of 90.49 billion yuan in 1992.

The main problem is that revenues have failed to keep pace with an explosive increase in spending on capital construction that fueled economic growth of 12.8 percent last year.

At the same time, Beijing has been impoverished by the crumbling of state industry, which once accounted for almost all of China's industrial production but whose share has now dropped to 55 percent. Central government relies on state enterprises for about 70 percent of its revenue.

"Certain departments and localities did too many things and launched too many projects without taking into consideration their ability and financial capacity," Mr. Liu said.

He complained of an overstuffed bureaucracy, local authorities handing out too many tax breaks to industry and lax management that led to waste.

Total revenue for 1993 is forecast at 452.23 billion yuan, up 8 percent from 1992. Expenditures are put at 472.737 billion yuan, up 6.8 percent.

This will produce a shortfall of 20.5 billion yuan, compared with 23.74 billion yuan in 1992. However, domestic bonds worth 37 billion yuan and 26.9 billion yuan foreign debt will swell that total. Such debts last year amounted to 66.74 billion yuan.

Mr. Liu offered some hope for collapsing state industries, saying a campaign to shake up the socialist sector with capitalist-style methods had begun to show results. He said there was an overall reduction of 4.2 percentage points in the losses of government enterprises in 1992.

Total industrial subsidies this year are forecast at 38.83 billion yuan compared with 44.57 billion yuan last year.

However, this is only a fraction of the total spent by central government to keep state industry afloat. It mainly covers the cost of compensating energy producers for being forced to sell at artificially low prices.

Huge bank loans that are unlikely ever to be repaid bail out unprofitable industrial companies.

Investor's Asia			
Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close
Hong Kong Hang Seng		5,980.04	5,854.51
Singapore Straits Times		1,648.35	1,630.81
Sydney All Ordinaries		1,659.90	1,626.40
Tokyo Nikkei 225		17,968.90	18,086.18
Kuala Lumpur Composite		637.79	634.81
Bangkok SET		905.12	905.51
Seoul Composite Stock		637.87	645.73
Taipei Weighted Price		4,489.99	4,507.00
Manila Composite		1,475.76	1,471.85
Jakarta Stock Index		311.09	311.70
New Zealand NZSE-40		1,584.69	1,567.04
Bombay National Index		1,101.80	1,096.89

County NatWest Sells Tokyo Exchange Seat

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
TOKYO—Alkane Securities Co. has bought County NatWest Securities Japan Ltd.'s seat on the Tokyo Stock Exchange for 943 million yen (\$7.9 million), exchange officials said Tuesday.

County NatWest Japan, a unit of National Westminster Bank PLC, in December became the first foreign member of the Tokyo exchange to say it would give up its seat. Business on the exchange has slumped over the past two years with the bursting of Japan's "bubble economy" of real estate and stock speculation.

County NatWest paid 963 million yen for the seat in May 1988. In addition to the payment to County NatWest, Alkane will pay 157 million yen to the exchange for deposit and admission fees. Alkane, a member of the Osaka Securities Exchange, is 90 percent owned by Orix Corp., Japan's largest leasing company.

East Japan Railway Likely To Go Public This Summer

AFP-Excel News
TOKYO—Securities analysts said Tuesday they expected the planned initial public offering of stock in East Japan Railway Co. to go ahead this summer at a price between 200,000 yen (\$1,690) and 2 million yen per share.

East Japan Railway is expected to be the first of the state-owned Japanese railway companies, which were made into corporations in the mid-1980s, to be floated publicly.

First meetings with securities analysts, held Monday, reinforced the likelihood that the company would complete its awaited listing later in the year, officials said.

It operates the network in the central Tokyo area, extending through the northern portion of the main Japanese island of Honshu.

Central Japan Railway, which primarily operates the bullet-train service between Tokyo and Osaka, and West Japan Railway Co., which operates in the western portion of Honshu, are also likely to be floated over the next 18 months, brokers said.

The Ministry of Transport has been seeking for some time to float the companies, but the weak stock market for the past three years has resulted in plans being deferred.

Now it is likely that applications for the East Japan Railway listing will be placed with the Tokyo Stock Exchange in May after the company's accounts for the year ending in March are audited. This would mean that the initial public offering would probably be conducted this summer and a listing would be likely in September, analysts said.

"At the moment, the share market, meaning investors, brokers and the company itself, are positive on the listing," said Junko Ota, an analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew.

Pepsi Signs Up for Return to Vietnam

By Ken Stier
Special to The Herald Tribune
BANOKOK—Pepsi-Cola Co. signed documents Tuesday committing it to become a joint-venture partner in a Vietnamese bottling operation after the U.S. economic embargo is completely lifted, a Pepsi spokesman said. This would make it the first major U.S. company to publicly declare its return to Vietnam.

The move should give Pepsi an important lead in Vietnam's soft-drink market, which is expected to grow rapidly with Vietnam's 68 million people.

A commitment letter says Pepsi will invest \$10 million—\$5 million in equity, \$2 million for the first year's marketing, with the balance for materials and training—once the embargo is completely lifted, according to Barry J. Shea, president of Pepsi-Cola International, South-

east Asia region, who signed on the company's behalf in a ceremony in Ho Chi Minh City.

Pepsi has already persuaded the current Miss Vietnam, a 17-year-old musician and actress, Ha Kien Anh, to appear in television commercials for Vietnamese channels.

With these and other preparations, Pepsi could be rolling off the bottling lines in two weeks, when the embargo is expected to be completely lifted, according to Mr. Shea.

Pepsi's partner, International Beverage Co., is itself a joint venture between the Macomdry Group of Singapore investors and Saigon Co., made up of three local Ho Chi Minh City government ventures, including two bottling interests.

IBC this week begins production of a range of carbonated drinks from Cadbury Schweppes, the British beverage company, which ranks third in the world.

IBC has the country's most modern facilities, which will have a capacity of 30 million cases when all four of its bottling lines are completed. That is roughly the current total national demand for soft drinks, but demand is expected to more than double in the two years following lifting of the embargo, before settling down to an expected 10 percent to 15 percent annual growth rate for the next decade.

Pepsi's announcement comes just a month after Coca-Cola said it had signed a memo of understanding with two government companies, Vietnam National Foodstuffs Import & Export Corp. and the Chuong Duong Beverage Factory, to continue discussions that "could lead to the eventual establishment of bottling operations."

Vietnam National Foodstuffs has an extensive distribution network but the Chuong Duong plant needs substantial upgrading.

MAZDA: Braking Late, Carmaker Can't Avoid a Skid UNEASE: Disquiet Spreads in Hong Kong Business

(Continued from first finance page)
 Honda's Acura brands that are competing with European makes such as BMW and Mercedes-Benz. This niche has become key for Japanese makers as political pressures reduce the number of exports to the United States. Mazda now will probably have to sell its high-end cars through its existing North American dealer network.

Another thump came earlier this month, when the company announced that it had dropped a plan to produce cars in Europe with Ford Motor Co.

That decision, ending nearly four years of study, effectively means that for years, Mazda will be unable to boost its share in the European Community, the world's largest car market, to which Japanese car exports are controlled through 1992.

Mazda, like other Japanese makers, plans to cut the number of

model variations it sells as well as the number of parts it uses through greater standardization. It will also spare development costs through swaps with domestic makers.

For example, it is discussing a plan to buy vans from Nissan for sale under its own name and sell the No. 2 Japanese carmaker small pickup trucks likewise. It is considering buying diesel engines for a new small-sized passenger car from Isuzu Motors Ltd., instead of building its own.

(Continued from first finance page)
 against the cost of getting a Canadian passport if they haven't already got one," said Tim Storey, an analyst with the H.G. Asia brokerage.

Mainland Chinese real estate investors, who pushed Hong Kong commercial property to new heights in 1992, have generally gone quiet since the Sino-British dispute escalated in November 1992.

"Any positive news would be greeted with a resurgence in market

activity in the commercial sector," said Nicholas Brooke of the real estate group Brooke Hillier Parker.

Apart from large investors issuing covered warrants on blue-chip stocks and deals in which mainland Chinese groups have bought into Hong Kong listed public companies, the colony's traditionally active corporate dealmakers have also been quieter than usual.

Mr. Patten's refusal to be drawn on when he would actually present his controversial proposals in the Legislative Council means Hong Kong's political situation could be in limbo for several weeks, if not months.

"We think this, or something like it, will be going on for some time to come," said a senior executive at one of Hong Kong's leading merchant banks. "It is not preferential to wait if it is a solid, long-term move."

"Despite all the megaphone politics, the stock market is showing resolution," he said.

NASDAQ

Tuesday's Prices
 NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

12 Month High	Low	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	Low	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	Low	Div	Yld	PE	12 Month High	Low	Div	Yld	PE
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OBSERVER

Convenience Banking

Personal News Item: The bank announces new charges of \$72 a year for checking-account "maintenance," plus 15 cents for each check drawn, plus 8 cents for each check deposited. For now, customers may continue to deposit cash without being charged.

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Dried tears were clearly evident on my bank statement. It was saddened to think of my banker weeping. He had been a fine banker in the old days. I shall never forget the day in 1986 when he did his utmost to lend me \$8 million.

Chased me all the way to the bank door, he did. Waving papers at me. Shouting, "Take it, take it! There's plenty more where this comes from!" I refused. I'd based my entire life on three great principles, one of which was to live so that I should never need \$8 million. As a result, I was worth little more than a pittance and reminded my banker of the fact, hoping to persuade him it would be madness to lend me \$8 million. It didn't. "It's only money," he explained.

"No it's not," I protested. "It's a promise by a man with only a pittance to pay \$8 million plus interest, starting the instant those papers are signed." "Not if you skip to Brazil," he said.

He was a nice banker. He could have easily pinned me to the bank floor and lent me the \$8 million. He didn't do that, though. He let me off without a loan.

The tears stains on the bank statement made me want to repay his kindness. To the bank I went, saying, "I want to see my banker, so I can buck him up."

A Convenience Person stopped

me at the door. "What is a Convenience Person?" I wanted to know, not having previously heard of Convenience Persons, much less encountering them at bank doors.

"A Convenience Person is a person posted at this door for your convenience," she said, adding that for the convenience of bucking up my banker I would have to pay 33 cents. I knew the bank was socking customers with new charges to recover losses on its \$8 million loans, so I naturally expected a charge for the right to buck up my banker, but I was amazed they would let me do it for a mere 33 cents.

My banker didn't recognize me. I tried to remind him who I was. "You're telling me you refused to take \$8 million and skip to Brazil?" he said. "Incredible!" Then, "That gives me a great idea! Starting next month customers too dim to skip to Brazil will get socked with a new failure-to-skip charge."

It was wonderful to see him smile. "You're not thinking big enough," I said. "Why are you paying 2 percent interest on deposits? Instead of paying the customers 2 percent you ought to be charging them 2 percent for letting their money use your bank."

He seemed doubtful. While the customers whined about receiving only 2 percent interest, making them pay 2 percent interest might start them complaining that 2 percent was an outrageously high rate to pay for just having their money comfortably housed.

"Of course it is," I said, "and you must make them see that their money is not being comfortably housed like a bunch of spoiled, idle college kids. You must make people see that their money is being put to good, honest, profitable work. People will love the idea of hard-working money. Charge them 2 percent for the right to come to the bank and watch their money at work."

"The money doesn't work at the bank," said the banker. "It goes out to work."

"All the better," I said. "You can make customers pay a homecoming charge to visit the bank every evening and enjoy the satisfying spectacle of seeing their money trudge home after a hard day of toil."

New York Times Service

Creative Disorder At Bonn's Opera

By Craig R. Whitney

BONN — To enliven the opera house in this sleepy town-to-be-capital on the Rhine, the city fathers decided to take the risk of hiring someone who would bring creative disorder to the job. So far, Giancarlo del Monaco has delivered in spades.

Since taking on the \$250,000-a-year job of general director of the Bonn Opera in August, del Monaco, 49, has overspent his budget by \$2.4 million, received a formal reprimand from the city council, been placed under investigation by the local district attorney for possible breach of trust, and staged two provocative new productions — Weber's "Freischütz" and Verdi's "Otello."

In the first performance here of the Verdi, the soprano Larisa Shevchenko took a heavy fall, as del Monaco's stage directions for Desdemona ordered, and broke her wrist in six places. She bravely got through the last act anyway, earning heavy applause, but then had to go to a hospital.

Del Monaco, a fiery and outspoken character who goes nowhere without his English bulldog, Sir John, said she had been magnificent; about himself, he doesn't seem to be worried, or to have any regrets about taking the job.

"My contract runs until 2000," he said in his office in the renovated Bonn opera house the other day, dismissing German bureaucratic perfectionism and the provincialism of city politics with a wave of his Havana cigar. "But the Germans were nicer when they were smaller."

Baron Hans-Joachim von Usler-Gleichen, the city administrator who brought del Monaco here from Kassel, where an equally stormy tenure was cut short after two years, also said he had had no second thoughts.

"We wanted somebody who would take artistic risks, and he is of course hard to handle," the baron said. "I always knew there'd be a problem with money, because he isn't a natural manager. He engaged more talent than he had money for, and now he'll just have to pay back the money from his budget, about a million marks [\$600,000] a year over the next four years."

It isn't clear to anyone, least of all del Monaco, just how he can squeeze a total of \$2.5 million from his budget and still carry out obligations he has already made to stars like Plácido Domingo and René Kollo. Kollo appeared in the "Freischütz"

premiere and will also be in "Pagliacci" this spring.

Though del Monaco's late father, Mario, was a famous Otello, the son is well known here for his avant-garde reinterpretations of the classic. In this production, he has transplanted a replica of the dome of Saint Mark's Cathedral from Venice to Cyprus, where it lies in ruins after apparently having been bombarded by the Turks.

Del Monaco said his choice of "Otello" to reopen Bonn's opera house last month, after renovation and expansion were completed, was a response to attacks on foreign workers and refugees by rightists extremists.

"I had racism and intolerance in mind," he explained. In his staging of the opera, the Moor, sickened by what the scheming Iago and other Europeans have done to him, appears in African costume in the last act. Del Monaco would like the audience to believe that after Otello stabs himself he stumbles off in the direction of his native land to die.

There were a few boos at the end of the "Otello" premiere from a Bonn audience that likes more traditional stagings, but del Monaco took them in good humor. He recalled a conversation with Götter Friedrich, the well-known producer at the Komische Oper in Berlin, who told him, "Giancarlo, if you aren't booed, ask yourself what you're doing wrong."

Curiosity about the "Freischütz" production centered on the set by Werner Tübke, who is best known for a vast socialist-realist panorama of a 16th-century farmers' uprising that was commissioned by the Communist East German regime.

Tübke and his assistants worked for two years on the scenery, and the painter and his work got the only enthusiastic ovation at the premiere, while both Kollo and Dennis Russell Davies, who conducted, got boos.

Bonn is fighting hard against the political decision, made in 1991, to make Berlin the capital of the united Germany, though the government appears unlikely to move much before the end of the century. The budget for the Bonn Opera alone is \$32 million a year, much of it provided by the federal government. Bonn's cultural subsidies seem certain to be reduced when the government moves to Berlin.

Der Spiegel, the national weekly news magazine, recently allowed itself to doubt whether Bonn's ambitions for its opera



Giancarlo del Monaco in front of a set for his production of "Der Freischütz."

were realistic and whether del Monaco had the financial or political finesse to make them come true.

Bonn's orchestra, as well, has an ambitious artistic director in Davies, who also conducts the Brooklyn Philharmonic and the American Composers Orchestra in New York City. Here in Beethoven's birthplace, Davies gives Bonn audiences at the Beethovenhalle regular doses of avant-garde music. He, too, was criticized by the city council for overspending on this year's Beethoven Festival budget by more than \$200,000.

But both del Monaco and Davies continue to have full backing from the city authorities for everything they want to do,

which includes commissions for a series of short operas to be produced in the museum of modern art that opened in Bonn last summer.

The intrigues continue, as if there were a real-life Iago somewhere in the bowels of the opera house. A letter purportedly signed by del Monaco's principal deputy, Reinhard Beuth, suggesting that Beuth would be glad to take over if the city authorities fired his boss, recently surfaced in the newspapers.

Beuth, who seemed on excellent terms with the director in his office a few days earlier, denied having written it and threatened legal action against whoever did.

PEOPLE

British TV Backs Off Nude Sketches of Diana

Drawings depicting Princess Diana in a state of undress will be dropped from a TV program after two of the pictures were published on the front of the Sun newspaper. One sketch is of Diana wearing only her bra, a Union Jack G-string and a pair of royal crests on her breasts. "Outrageous," the caption read. Channel 4 said the pictures would not be used in the "World Without Walls" program, but a picture showing the princess in a state of undress would be. The channel decided that the other pictures were "inappropriate and unnecessary to get over the message of the program"; that Diana has changed from fairy-tale princess to smoking sex symbol. The Tatler society magazine is offering odds on possible suitors for Princess Diana, should she and Prince Charles eventually divorce. Joint favorites in the remarriage stakes at 4-9 are John F. Kennedy Jr. and Prince Pierre d'Armenberg, whose ancestors are descended from the Belgian royal family.

V.S. National has won the David Cohen British Literature Prize, a new award of £30,000 (\$43,000), "in recognition of a lifetime's achievement." National, who was knighted in 1990, won the Booker Prize in 1971 for "In a Free State." The biennial prize, Britain's biggest literary award in money terms, is sponsored by the Arts Council.

Pat Nixon spent her 81st birthday at home in New Jersey with family, but the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda, California, celebrated in a big way. In addition to free admission on Tuesday, the library offered the first 200 visitors a piece of birthday cake. The first 50 visitors got a copy of "Pat Nixon: The Untold Story."

President Bill Clinton and daughter Chelsea dined with the actor Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward, Tim Robbins and a few friends at a pricey Washington restaurant. Hillary Rodham Clinton, in Iowa to take part in a health-care forum, missed out on the dinner at Galileo.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED Appears on Pages 6, & 17

Paris Opéra Embezzlement

The Associated Press

PARIS — Six million francs (about \$1.05 million) has disappeared from the Paris Opéra. Officials are investigating on the assumption the theft was an inside job carried out over a period of six months, a spokeswoman said. The overall budget of the Paris Opéra — including the Palais Garnier, now a showcase for dance, and the Bastille Opéra — was 781 million francs in 1992.

Weather

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday

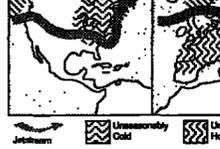


Table with weather data for various regions including Europe, North America, Asia, Africa, Middle East, and Latin America. Columns include High, Low, Wind, and Precipitation.

Books

A FIERCE GREEN FIRE: The American Environmental Movement

By Philip Shabecoff, 352 pages. \$25. Hill and Wang.

Yet often both sides proclaim themselves "environmentalists." As I am sure the authors of these two very different books would. Far from being a single, coherent ideology, environmentalism is a "box" into which an astonishingly broad range of political thought can fit," writes Philip Shabecoff in his history of the American environmental movement. While today that movement is dominated by liberals, such founding figures as Aldo Leopold and John Muir were conservatives in a classical sense: They sought to conserve resources, and opposed government-funded infrastructure such as dams. This strain of American thought is rooted in the myth of a pristine continent, before the arrival of European settlers. Shabecoff goes back to that pristine state, but his book is less a probing history than a paean to environmentalists. He covered environmental issues for The New York Times for 14 years; now the publisher of an environmental news service, he insults the reader with flaccid analysis and bland advocacy. Next is his tepid stuff, Ronald Bailey's slashing attack on apocalyptic environmentalists clearly establishes him as the preferable drinking companion. Armed only with a withering contrarianism and the work of a few skeptical scientists, Bailey tears into a half-dozen faddish theories of ecological doom, from the Ice Age fears of two decades ago to today's angst over global warming. Bailey neatly skewers global-warming gadfly Stephen Schneider upon his own past as a proponent of "global cooling."

Best Sellers

The New York Times

Table of best-selling books. Columns include book title, author, and weeks on list.

author of "The Population Bomb" and perennial proclaimer that the end is nigh, whom he places (along with Ehrlich's fellow "doomsters") squarely in Richard Hofstadter's paranoid tradition of American politics. But Bailey belongs there as well. For, like a man who is colorblind, he sees a new Red menace in everything green. He rather indiscriminately labels moderate greens like Al Gore and the Environmental Defense Fund as shock troops for eco-communism. And he all but ignores environmentalism's successes in cleaning up our rivers and air and in protecting our species — just as Shabecoff skims over its failures. There are good libertarian arguments to be made against modern environmentalism, particularly our rigid, non-negotiable environmental protection laws; Bailey makes a few (his study was funded by a libertarian foundation). But for the most part, he wields his Weed Whacker against the (real) fringes of green thought. Characters like Ehrlich and Jeremy Rubin and "Limits to Growth" author Donella Meadows still make headlines from time to time, but their credibility has eroded since the 1970s. Nevertheless, Bailey sets out on the warpath against them, seeking to show "why the world hasn't ended yet." Yet? One gets the feeling he won't back down even when it does. Bill Gifford, an associate editor of Washington's City Paper who has covered environmental issues for Outside and Rolling Stone magazines, wrote this for The Washington Post.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Do a slalom
4 Fish spear
7 Part of R.S.V.P.
10 Recipe amt.
13 Anderson's
14 Generic letters
18 Before, to Poe
19 Willis O'Brien's
21 Kashmir fleece
23 Cork instrument
25 Mem. Comb. form
27 Thefts
28 "Darby's"
29 "Rangers" star
30 Buffalo
32 S.A. rodent
33 N.Y. and Bos.
34 "bin cin
37 Hardy character
38 Form of Soviet
39 Dye vessel
40 Woody's son
41 Dundalk-to-Dublin dir.
42 "be in
43 More plucky
44 "Ft.
45 "Rings" and family
46 Concord
47 Eyeball part
48 A Patrick Henry
49 Alley button
50 Dye vessel
51 Italy's Saint
52 Salt
53 Dublin ending
54 Writer Anais
55 Double: Prefix
56 Dec. 24, e.g.
57 Aspin or Brown
58 Elec. flows
59 "... a trip to the old
60 Farrel
61 Tally
62 Move for O'Connor or Kelly

Crossword

DOWN

- 2 Soda nut
3 Able's colleen?
4 Washer or eyelid
5 Mythical princess
6 "A. Calico,
1946 song
7 Egyptian king
8 Gerry Fitzgerald had one
9 Lachy's meo
10 O'Hara home and Erin village
11 Hose's gush
12 Chick sounds
13 Some seaweeds
14 Baseball's Wagner
15 Hasten
16 O'Casey studied it
17 Sullivan
18 Stadium take
19 "Rock of
20 Monastery: Abbr.
21 Lamb dish
22 Singer-Laine
23 Turk Murphy
24 Blow one
25 Dined
26 Priest's vestment
27 Like marry a Dale Murphy catch
28 Kind of bettor
29 Priest's vestment
30 Electees
31 Urge
32 Roof border
33 In Erin it's ever green?
34 Jim

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and a small advertisement for 'New York Times, edited by Eugene Malachuk.'

Books

A FIERCE GREEN FIRE: The American Environmental Movement

By Philip Shabecoff, 352 pages. \$25. Hill and Wang.

ECO-SCAM: The False Prophets of Ecological Doom

By Ronald Bailey, 228 pages. \$19.95. St. Martin's Press.

Reviewed by Bill Gifford

ENVIRONMENTALISM is at once the most ubiquitous and ungraspable of all isms. Under its rubric arise some of the most potent, divisive issues in American politics since the Civil War. Like the Civil War, environmental conflicts boil down to economic ones.

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